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music magazine

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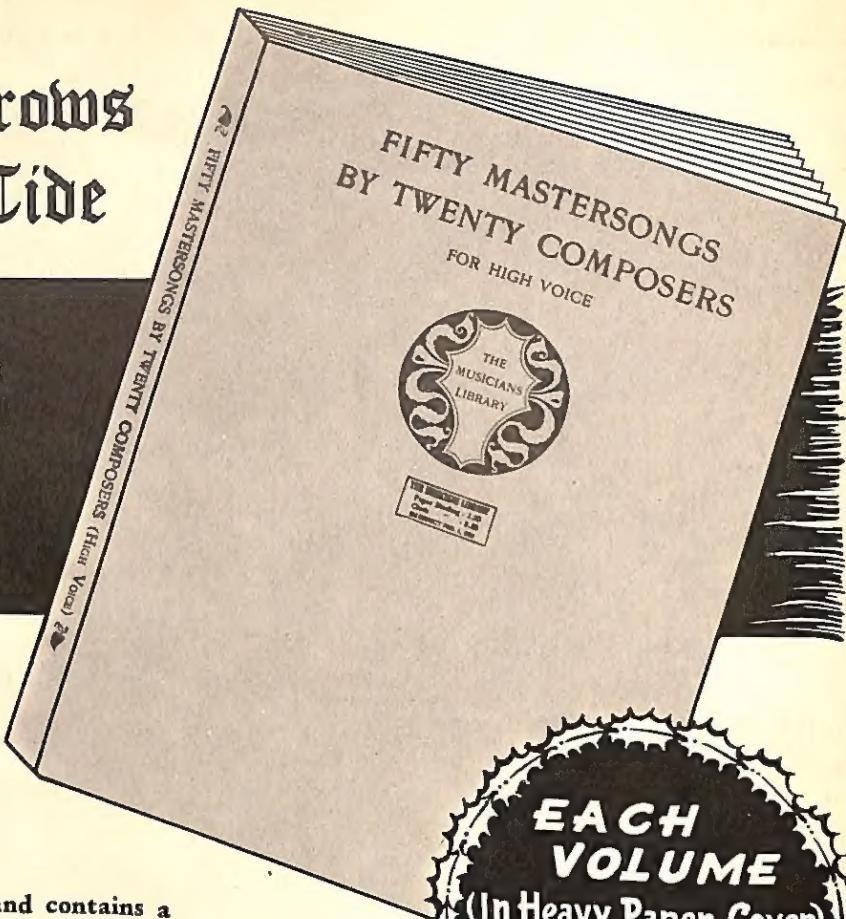
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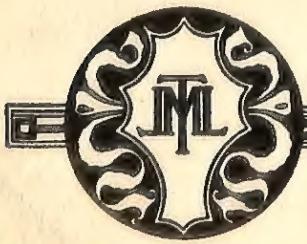
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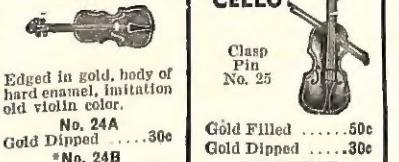
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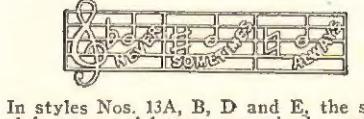
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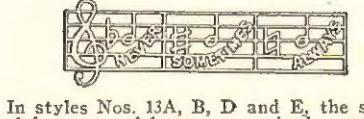
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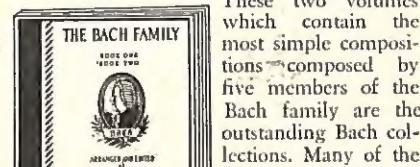


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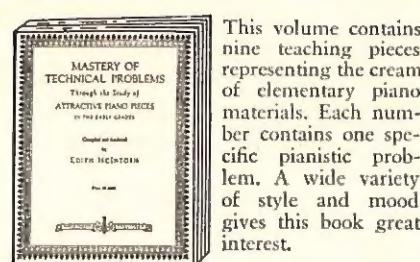


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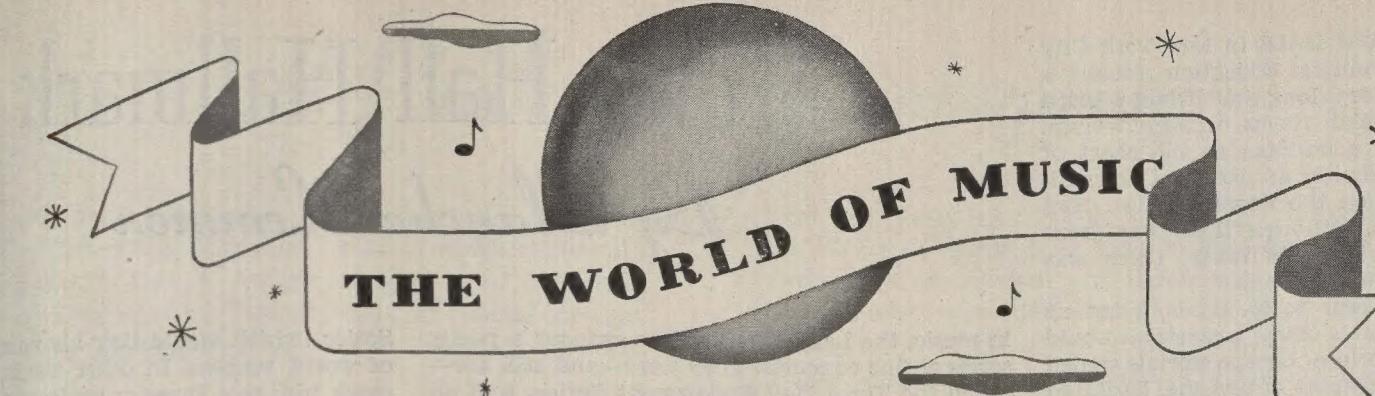
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GOVANNI MARTINELLI, world-famous tenor, has accepted the appointment as artistic director of the Chicago Opera Company. The veteran member of the Metropolitan Opera Company will still be heard with this organization; and he will also sing important roles with the Chicago company. The Littlefield Ballet, directed by its founder, Catherine Littlefield, has been retained as the official ballet group for the Chicago opera season.



GOVANNI MARTINELLI

VERNON DUKE, who wrote the score for "Cabin in the Sky", has completed a violin concerto which is his sixth work to be accepted for performance by the Boston Symphony Orchestra. For his serious music, the composer uses his real name, Vladimir Dukelsky.



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## Youth and Music

**I**N BUILDING TOWN HALL in New York City the League for Political Education reached a cherished goal; for a long time it had wanted its own offices and club rooms and auditorium. But the erection of a building in the heart of Manhattan Island requires an outlay of no small proportions. And when the doors of Town Hall were ready to open, although there was great satisfaction in the League's ranks, there was little money in its bank account.

Then, as if in answer to its needs, a tenant appeared at the business office; a musician would like to use the auditorium. League officials smiled at this unexpected prospect of revenue, hesitated only a moment, and promised the use of the Hall for the next day. By that time carpenters could widen those stage doors sufficiently to permit a grand piano to be rolled through. No one, while the building was being erected, had thought of their ever needing to accommodate such a large stage property.

This fortuitous union between music and the League was effected in 1921; it was followed by a steady succession of musical events in the auditorium. For intimate recitals it soon became the choice of the famous, and, partly because celebrities appeared here, and, partly because they could not fill a larger auditorium, it became the choice of a far larger group—the would-be famous; débüt after débüt was made here. In a few years, Town Hall was celebrated near and far as a music center.

As time went by the landlord began to be as interested in the tenant as the tenant was in the landlord. Music was no longer merely a source of revenue; it was something of which the League was proud, something with which it would not willingly dispense. As an indication of its interest



Miss Rosalyn Tureck, brilliant young 23-year-old pianist, being presented with an illuminated scroll emblematic of her winning the first "Town Hall Endowment Series Award" for her presentation in the 1938 season of the 48 Preludes and Fugues of Bach in a series of six recitals. She is the first woman, as far as is known, who ever attempted such a feat. The "Town Hall Endowment Series Award" is given each year to the young artist, man or woman, under thirty, who, in the opinion of the New York music critics and the Town Hall Music Committee, gives the most outstanding performance of the season at Town Hall, and shows the most promise. The award also carries with it an engagement to appear on the next Town Hall Endowment Series. Miss Tureck appeared in the series, Wednesday evening, January 11, 1939. Left to right in the picture are: George V. Denny, Jr., President of Town Hall; Mrs. Hermes Fontaine, Mrs. F. C. Muschenheim, Rosalyn Tureck, Mrs. Theodore Steinway, Mrs. Arthur M. Reis, members of the Town Hall Music Committee, and Kenneth Klein, Director of the Concert Department, Town Hall.

# Town Hall Hallmark

## By Blanche Lemmon

in music, the League decided to sponsor a yearly series of fine concerts. They were—and still are—called the Town Hall Endowment Series. And on them appear each season a half dozen or more of the world's most renowned musicians.

### An Idea Develops

This first gesture of interest was followed by a second one, the latter made several years later. Meanwhile, for a long time, Town Hall, Incorporated, as the League had come to be known, had been watching young musicians appear in the auditorium, had taken cognizance of their situation and asked what could be done to help.

Some of the young performers were mediocre, some very good, and a few—a very few—were already artists who gave promise of being still greater ones. Watching the welter of talent that passed in review each year, Town Hall, Incorporated, fell to wondering about such performers and about that long, difficult route that must be traveled before an artist, even an exceptional one, has a box office name. Among young people under thirty, for instance, how many of them, even the ones who topped the rank and file, could, without great difficulty, bridge that gap between a New York débüt and the point where

a performer is rated by small city managers as a box office success? All of them could state in their publicity that they had made Town Hall débûts. How, then, was an out-of-town manager to know that the ability displayed by some unknown John Jones was extraordinary?

To help both managers and the John Joneses, Town Hall instituted a plan whereby it would present each year a Young Artist Award to the one under thirty, who, in the opinion of a committee of judges—acting upon suggestions submitted by the professional music critics of New York—should give in the auditorium the most outstanding performance of the season. It would consist of a plaque giving the date and nature of his accomplishment and in addition guarantee that he would be included as a paid performer on the following year's Town Hall Endowment

Series, which would link his name with virtue of world renown. In other words, it would hallmark him as a superior performer who had demonstrated his worth in a spot where competition is keener than anywhere else in the world. It would put on him a seal of approval recognizable to concert managers everywhere.

The first Award was made in 1938 and choosing the recipient was not difficult, for her achievement was one not matched nor likely to be matched in many a concert season. She was Miss Rosalyn Tureck, and she played the forty-eight preludes and fugues of Bach's "Well Tempered Clavichord" in a series of six recitals, and played them in a manner that made critics toss verbal hats into the air. So far as the judging committee was able to ascertain, this was afeat never before accomplished by a woman. And this woman who had the courage and the ability to put over this colossal undertaking was just twenty-three years old!

### The Fruits of Labor

Miss Tureck had been a prize winner from an early age. At thirteen she was awarded first prize in the Greater Chicago Piano Playing Tournament, then she won a fellowship in the Juilliard School of Music, and in 1935 she captured both the \$1,000 Award of the National Federation of Music Clubs and the Schubert Memorial Award. The Town Hall prize, coming three years later, delighted her, of course. But to such a veteran collector of blue ribbons it could not have carried the shock of great surprise.

Did the Award do for her what Town Hall believed it would? She assures anyone who asks about it that it did. In a letter last year she wrote, "It came at a time when my career needed a boost of that kind and it helped to spread the news of success all over the country, since Town Hall has such prestige. I have no doubt that the Award carried much weight in the matter of engagements for that season—which was a very busy one."

The second Award was made to Miss Carroll Glenn, violinist, who was also an early and consistent prize winner. Prior to claiming the Town Hall Award for her playing she held fellowships at both the Institute of Musical Art and the Juilliard School, and for maintaining the highest general average over a period of four years she won the Institute's Faculty Scholarship Award.

Then, while still a student, she won the Walter N. Naumburg Award, which opened the way to a Town Hall concert. And for her performance in the most outstanding performance of the season. It would consist of a plaque giving the date and nature of his accomplishment and in addition guarantee that he would be included as a paid performer on the following year's Town Hall Endowment

Series, which would link his name with virtue of world renown. In other words, it would hallmark him as a superior performer who had demonstrated his worth in a spot where competition is keener than anywhere else in the world. It would put on him a seal of approval recognizable to concert managers everywhere.

Thanksgiving is our most venerable American holiday. It is three hundred and twenty years old. The Pilgrims, in the autumn of 1621, came together, not so much for a harvest feast, but for a

day of prayer and thanksgiving for deliverance from the perils of the first New England winter, for their escape from wild beasts and from Indian arrows. This was no hilarious festival.

They had been obliged to bury their dead at night, so that the Indians might not know that the tiny group was reduced. Half of the colony died during the first

winter, including Governor Carver. Yet those who remained steadfastly gave thanks for their blessings. They had in them the same spirit of courage and defiance of danger which have made the people of Britain to-day the marvel of the world.

Those who at this hour make Thanksgiving a kind of Falstaffian orgy of turkey and cranberry sauce and the "trimmings" are very remote from the true spirit of the festival. As we meet at this harvest feast, to revel in the plenty which comes to most American homes, let us not forget to give thanks for our still greater blessings.

We give thanks for the privilege of living in America, for the privilege of being Americans; for the privilege of making sacrifices to help others who are, at this moment, in appalling distress through no fault of their own.

We give thanks that many of our friends in all countries overseas are still spared from the worst devastation of war: the agony of hunger and plague.

We give thanks that, together with millions of other Americans, we have not lost our faith in the ultimate triumph of right. History many times confirms the fact that

Her age when all of this was accomplished! Nineteen. Thus far she has the honor of being the youngest artist to receive the Award.

The third winner was a singer of such superlative gifts that her fame from the moment she appeared on the Town (Continued on Page 792)

NOVEMBER, 1941

# A Psalm of Thanksgiving

in the long run, right inevitably triumphs over might.

We give thanks that, even in the warring countries of the enemies of freedom and democracy, there are millions of oppressed, who look secretly, with hope and faith, for the overthrow of the cruel tyrants who have ruined their lives, demolished their businesses, and robbed their families of loved ones.

We give thanks that our children can continue their happiness and their education without fear of murder from the skies.

We give thanks that the torch of culture is still burning brightly in the land of the free, that its sacred fire may be used to illumine the world.

We give thanks for the spirit of tolerance which enables us to understand and appreciate the shortcomings of others—to view well meant differences of opinion without condemning others for holding them.

We give thanks for the spirit of sanity, the "horse sense" which is keeping the great body of American people from losing their social balance, from running to destructive moral, political, and economic extremes based upon radicalism and a doctrine of a false ideology.

We give thanks that millions of Americans have a higher understanding of the importance of music in life, especially at a time of crisis. "Music," said an important industrialist recently, "is the best 'blotout' I know. When I go home at night, I sit at the piano and play for an hour, and the countless troublesome problems of the day vanish completely. It is a rest, a solace, a stimulant, and does something beneficial to my mind, which is hard to describe. It seems to help me to reconstitute and reorganize unconsciously my thinking apparatus, so that after these periods of music I can see things more clearly and come to profitable decisions which would not be possible with a disturbed mind. One cannot do much with a troubled, overworked brain. Music brings a kind of blessed repose, balance, and refreshment that, together with my family, the association with worth while friends, the joy of wide reading, and the inspiration of religion, lead me to give thanks daily for my blessings."

The speaker was the head of one of the largest steel manufacturing plants in America.

(Continued on Page 792)



1621 ~~~~~ 1941

Thanksgiving dinners three hundred and twenty years apart. The 1621 picture is a re-dramatized performance given in recent years by the citizens of Plymouth, Massachusetts.



the piano and play for an hour, and the countless troublesome problems of the day vanish completely. It is a rest, a solace, a stimulant, and does something beneficial to my mind, which is hard to describe. It seems to help me to reconstitute and reorganize unconsciously my thinking apparatus, so that after these periods of music I can see things more clearly and come to profitable decisions which would not be possible with a disturbed mind. One cannot do much with a troubled, overworked brain. Music brings a kind of blessed repose, balance, and refreshment that, together with my family, the association with worth while friends, the joy of wide reading, and the inspiration of religion, lead me to give thanks daily for my blessings."

# The Revival of The Ancient Recorder

An Interview with

*Irmgard Lehrer*

By Rosa Pringle

"Anon they move in perfect phalanx to the  
Dorian mood of flutes and soft recorders"

Paradise Lost—John Milton

During the past ten years there has been a very definite movement in Europe and in America to revive the ancient recorder so frequently mentioned in history and literature. The instrument has a peculiar appeal to children.—EDITOR'S NOTE.

**I**RMGARD LEHRER, FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR of The Center for Old Music, is bringing to the public a great deal of information on musical subjects that has hitherto been unavailable.

Miss Lehrer is a gifted recorder player, a concert artist and teacher of established recognition in America. She is assisted in her work by Eva Heinetz, and other well-known artists, who conduct classes in the viola da gamba and harpsichord.

The prime purpose of the center is to revive an interest in these early instruments. And the first and most necessary step in this revival, as Miss

Lehrer explained, is to make the public acquainted with the music for them, most of which still remains in museum files.

"Our use of the words 'old music,'" Miss Lehrer explained, "does not in any sense mean that such music, or the instruments on which it is played, are musty and uninteresting. The word 'old' is used, for lack of a better one, to describe something worthy of preservation and transmission, regardless of period."

"Like all true creations, the music for old instruments possesses the quality of timeliness, for it was universally understood and appreciated in its day. It is therefore just as beautiful and fitting for 'moderns,' in their stream-lined environment as it was when first created."

This is readily understandable in the light of Miss Lehrer's account of the recorder's history: Its highly functional existence as one of the chief "mouthpieces" of our civilized world through several centuries, and its temporary retreat before more aggressive instruments in our modern categories.

"Everybody played recorders," Miss Lehrer went on. "And this is exactly as it should have been, and as we, who recognize their possibilities, would like it to become again. For there is no other instrument more adaptable, either for solo or ensemble playing. And the most remarkable of its assets is its really beautiful and practicable contribution as an obbligato or accompaniment to the human voice. For this qualification, as all musicians know, is rare."

"Listen," she said, as she played a few notes on her own recorder. They were liquid and plaintive, like the notes of a bird. More "throaty" than those of our transverse flute, these

tones were the basis for the definition of a recorder in fourteenth century English dictionaries as: *A singing bird.*

"It certainly possesses, to a marked degree, the mingled qualities of our most beautiful wind instruments." Miss Lehrer handed me her recorder as she spoke. "See," she said, "how very simple it is. There are no slides, no intricacies, and it is small enough to tuck into one's briefcase, or a large shopping bag or overcoat pocket!"

According to some charming bits from historical documents in Miss Lehrer's possession, not only musicians, but the greatest dramatists of all time, had marked respect for the recorder.

Shakespeare devotes an entire scene to it in one of his most famous plays. In "Hamlet" when news is brought to the hero of the final proof of his father's murder, instead of attempting to describe in words the acute agony of mind suffered by a human being already tortured beyond measure, Shakespeare has the character cry out "Come! Some music! Come! The recorder!"

Samuel Pepys, also in his noted diary, gives us one of the most vivid impressions of the instrument. In his description of Massinger's mystery play, "The Virgin Martyr," in which the supernatural effect of an angel-choir is accomplished with the use of recorders, Pepys

words, always worthy of quotation, are delightful:

*But that which did please me beyond anything in the whole world, was the wind musique when the angel comes down, which is so sweet that it ravished me, and indeed, in a word, did wrap up my soul so that it made me really sick, just as I have formerly been when in love with my wife. That neither then nor all the evening, going home, and at home, I was able to think of anything, but remained all night, transported, so I could not believe that ever any musical hath that real command over the soul of man as this did upon me: and makes me resolve to practice wind musique and make my wife do the like.*

A few days later, we read, the mighty Pepys carried out his resolve, and went to his flute maker to buy a recorder.

Comparatively few casual students of music realize that such great composers as Bach and Handel had an imposing list of works in which the recorder was featured. Four sonatas and "Sonata da camera" by Handel were composed for recorder. And in most of his operas, his Italian cantatas, and "Water Music," they take a prominent part.

The "Second and Fourth Brandenburg Concertos" by Bach have recorders as solo instruments. And many of his cantatas contain recorder obbligatos.

Telmann also must have been something of a virtuoso on the instrument, as he wrote numerous works for the recorder, each of which brought out a different (Continued on Page 751)



Recorders with a primitive stringed instrument

# Music Versus Professionalism

An Interview with

*Raymond Gram Swing*Distinguished Journalist  
and Commentator

By ROSE HEYLBUT



Miss Irmgard Lehrer in Elizabethan costume. Photo reproduced by permission of Dr. William C. Carle.



Raymond Gram Swing

**A**MONG THE CONTEMPORARY WORKS of distinguished merit presented by the Composers' Forum, in the New York Public Library some months ago, there was a composition for violin and piano entitled "Fantasia quasi una sonata." The work was unusual in two respects. First, it was more than ordinarily expressive; and, second, it had nothing to do with "professional music." The "Fantasia" was the work of Raymond Gram Swing, the eminent news commentator, whose penetrating analyses of the foreign situation help shape the thought of millions of listeners. Most of these listeners were surprised that Mr. Swing should appear as the composer of formal and excellent music. The cause of the surprise roots partly in the attitude of Mr. Swing and partly in the attitude of the listeners.

As concerns Mr. Swing's radio listeners, they demonstrate the hold that professionalism still has upon the public mind by showing surprise that a "non professional" should write outstanding music. And it is just this curious, if widespread, attitude of mind which Mr. Swing desires to refute.

## Playing for Pleasure

"What we need as much as anything else today," says Mr. Swing, "is to open our minds to the idea that it is possible—even necessary—to devote ourselves to an artistic pursuit without in any way earning money by it. The problem of leisure is quite as great as that of labor, and our civilization hasn't yet taught us the full use of leisure, which is not 'fun' or 'time-killing,' but self-satisfaction through self-expression. A man

so exclusively devoted to the business of gain that he lets the expression of his inner self become atrophied, grows dull, maladjusted, narrow. The same is true of nations. When a nation gives too little time to self-expression, its civilization is retarded. Now, music is one of the finest means of self-expression, because its appeal is so entirely subjective and personal. That is why it should be cultivated, why the majority of people do cultivate it, happily enough, regardless of 'musts.' I look forward to the time when the average citizen will turn to music as he does to sports—not to make a name or a living, but to release himself. As we get more and more civilized, we will participate more and more freely in artistic creation, and for no other reason than that we want to. When that happens, the nation which is formed of millions of expressive individuals will show new creative vitality.

"There are encouraging signs that this higher state of expressiveness is nearer at hand than is generally supposed. More music is made in the home to-day than was the case thirty years ago. More musical instruments are being sold. Much more group music is to be found; and group music, to my mind, is the most important of all, since it stimulates cooperative enjoyment and minimizes solo professionalism.

"The popular attitude among professional musicians is to question the vitality of personal participation in this day of radio, phonograph records, and generally superlative canned music. They hold that the more people are encouraged to sit back and hear fine performances cost free, the less they are inclined to take the trouble of working out less perfect performances themselves. I quite disagree with this view. My own observations show that the sort of music people make themselves has grown enormously. Little cross-roads towns—I can think of many of them—have marshaled their music-minded citizens into amateur orchestras and chamber groups that give amazingly good performances. Choruses and glee clubs are to be found everywhere. School boys form chamber music groups in their schools, as elective secondary activities.

## Active Participation

"What the professional means when he offers his objection is that the fine canned music we get deters people from going to concerts as much as they did in the days when the concert platform was the only authoritative source of good music available. And, in this, he is quite correct. The concert business is not falling off, certainly—I hope it never does—but it no longer dominates the scene in isolated splendor, as it once did. And this is an excellent thing! Instead of going to professional concerts, for which he had to spend money and dress up, the average music-lover is finding a new and two-fold stimulus, closer at hand. First, he hears great music at no effort to himself. On the radio, he hears vital performances; on the phonograph, he hears whatever he wishes, whenever he wishes, as often as he wishes.

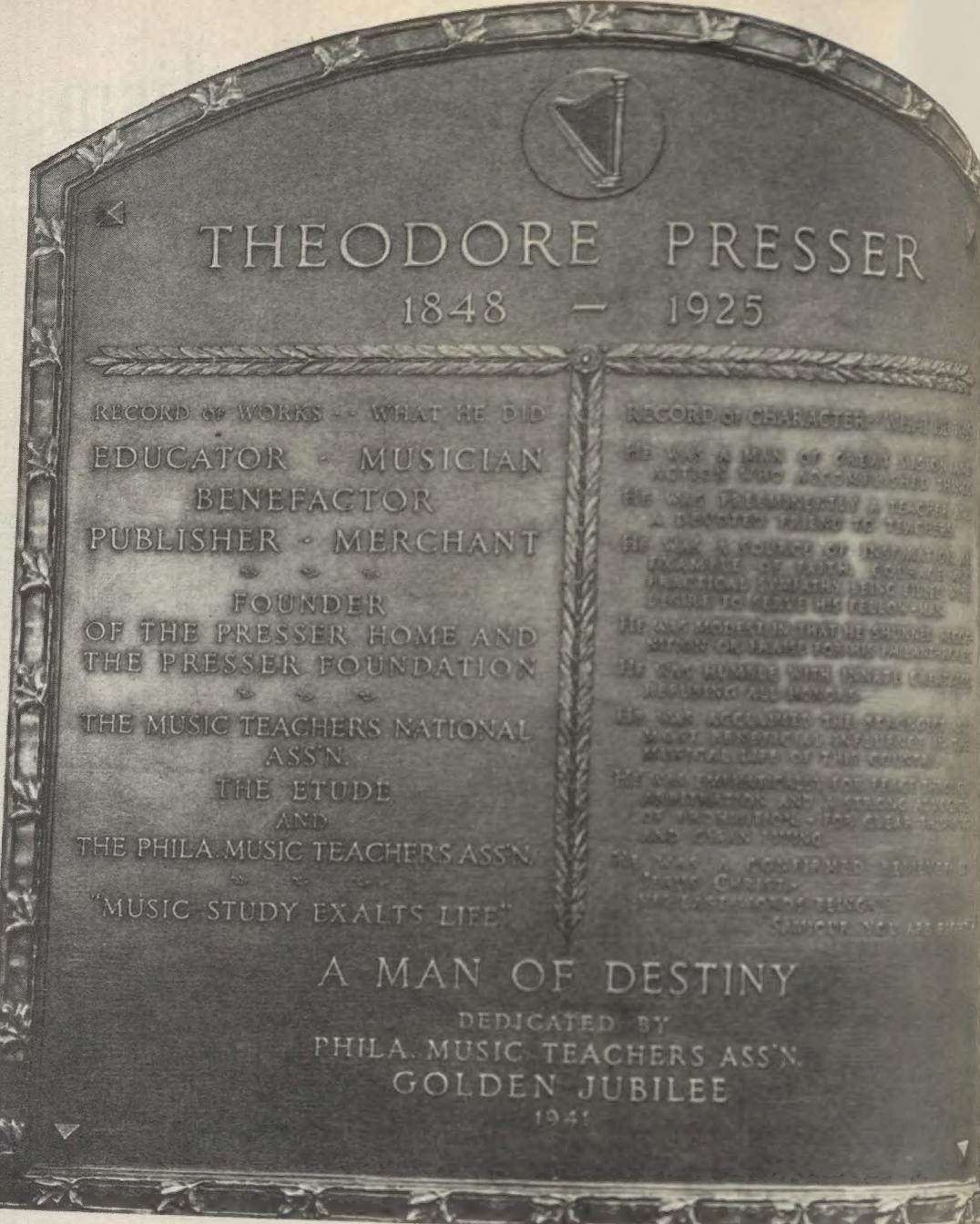
"But the important thing is that the music

stimulus doesn't end with passive listening. Which introduces Point Two! The new florescence of amateur music throughout the land means that the more music people take in, the more encouragement they find for translating their interest into active participation. To my mind, the sole cause for this new florescence is the sheer repetitive weight of the canned music people have been hearing for the last ten years. While a good concert stands out as a stimulating treat, the repetitive cumulation of good music at home, day after day, year in year out, does more than entertain; it invites personal and active participation. We have seen quite the same thing happen in the field of sports. As a result of continued spectator interest, people have been stimulated to take part themselves, sheerly for the fun of it. It is precisely this element of taking part one's self, for the fun of it, that is the core of self-expression. The accessibility of great music is chiefly important for what it does *after* it has been heard. That is why I must disagree with the professional attitude which dwells upon the 'harm' that canned music can do. It does no harm at all. It does the enormous good of familiarizing people with music they had little or no chance of hearing thirty years ago, and of arousing them to take a hand at music-making themselves because of this.

"It is this absence of professionalism that I anticipate in the music of the future. I admire the professional class greatly. As a class, though, it is too small, numerically, to dominate the musical scene as it has done. There have been simply performers and listeners, with no stress whatever on the in-between group which is not content with listening alone, yet which is not at all professional in its purpose. And this group, precisely, has the most to bring to music. Music belongs to the people—in their own hands, their own throats—not as a rare treat, not as a mark of social superiority, but as a vital force to live with.

"We are all familiar with one reason, at least, why music has been kept apart from everyday life. Most children 'take lessons' when they are small. Then comes the time when other interests crowd in and formal lessons are halted. Still later, we find the average adult looking back upon that break between music study and everyday living, and regretting it. That in-between period needs careful attention. It is certainly not the fault of the child that his music work is halted. Our general educational methods are to blame. Let me offer an example in the case of my own son. He is now a freshman at Harvard, majoring in music, and receiving full academic credit for his work in harmony, music theory, and similar subjects. He also plays the violoncello which he greatly enjoys; but he receives no academic credit whatever for the hours of work he devotes to instrumental practice. The inevitable result is that, while his job consists in working for college credits, he has less and less time to devote to a type of work that is surely as important as any academic subject. Whatever time he puts in at violoncello work must be taken from his hours of personal leisure and recreation.

"My boy's case, certainly, is not unique. Every school and college student, who might be eager to practice, is under the same disadvantage. Is it any wonder, then, that this average student abandons personal music-making during the years that he is being educated in practically all subjects except those that might enrich his inner personal life? What (*Continued on Page 782*)



# Vocal Problems and Breath Technic

## A Conference with

*Margit Bokor*

Distinguished Hungarian Soprano,  
Leading Soprano, San Francisco  
and Chicago Opera Companies

Secured Expressly for THE ETUDE by MYLES FELLOWES

Margit Bokor, who has earned the acclaim of American concert and opera audiences, is a native of Budapest. She showed marked musical and dramatic ability as a child, and was trained as a concert pianist. Not until she was seventeen did her voice prove exceptional. Although she was almost ready for her pianistic début, she returned to her studies, receiving her entire vocal training at the Budapest Academy of Music. She passed her examinations there four years later, and was immediately engaged for the Leipzig Opera. Thence, she went to the Dresden Opera, where she worked under Fritz Busch, and later, to Vienna. She has appeared as guest artist at Covent Garden, Paris, Brussels, Amsterdam, and at the Salzburg Festivals. Since the outbreak of the European war, Mme. Bokor has sung in South America and in the United States, winning recognition for her vocal mastery and her charming stage presence.—Editor's Note.

he needs for singing! That is why the young singer should acquire a firm grasp of the art of breath control before he allows himself to think of the interpretive phases of vocal art.

## Talent Cannot be Taught

These interpretive aspects are, to my mind, a matter of inborn talent and temperament. No one, really, can "teach" a person how to magnetize an audience. As Sir J. says, a person either has the gift or

al lacks it! But

matter. That depends upon pure actions and reactions and every singer can master them. And, in the long run, who has mastered vocal technic has a surer, vocal life.

In learning how to breathe correctly one should focus attention on the diaphragm of *depth* and *wideness*. Breathing with the strong muscles of the abdomen gives it support. In passing through the respiratory tract, then, it should expand the chest in an outward direction. One can easily imagine one's self with this sensation by placing the hands against the body a little above the waist and inhaling deeply, with closed eyes. Correctly drawn breathing will at once draw the body so that the hands feel them being pushed outward, following a marked curve of the body. True, the abdominal muscles tend to expand, but the chief expansion should be concentrated in the region of the chest. The student should perfect this diaphragmatic technic before he thinks seriously of the vocal folds.

**What Is Breath Control?**

The next step in the passage of breath is its contact with the vocal cords, the vibration of which produces tone. Here we approach the important problem of breath control. This means the budgeting of breath so that *just the right amount* is used for the vocalization of tone. If

## What Is Breath Control?



Margit Bokor

too little breath is used, the resulting tone is weak; if too much is used, the tone becomes breathy and colorless. The most helpful conception of breath control was taught me at the Budapest Academy. I was told to think of a single-column fountain, at the top of which there is a light, unattached ball; when the water is sent up through the column, it pushes against the ball, causing it to dance up and down in a light free motion. The greater the water pressure, the higher the distance the ball reaches. In singing the water column is represented by the column of air, and the ball is the tone. The tone "sits" easily upon the column of air, receives its strength of support from it, moves freely and lightly (on the reverse) according to the breath power behind it. If the breath pressure is strong and steady, the tone remains precise, firm. If the breath pressure is wavering or unsteady, the tone trembles, exactly as the ball does atop an unsteady column of water. Even to-day, after ten years of experience in public singing, I think of this picture of the ball and the fountain in perfecting my breath technic. I offer it to other students in the hope that it may prove equally successful for them. (Continued on Page 778)

on, made the speech of acceptance followed by a memorable program made up of a short talk from M. Isidor Phillips, who has been President of the Paris Conservatory of Paris, an address by Dr. John Haydon, Head of the Music Department of the University of North Carolina, piano recital by Mr. Harry Mayer, who made a splendid impression upon an audience composed largely of professional musicians, and finally, a very interesting a cappella chorus composed of young men and women from the Olney High School (Philadelphia), ably conducted by Mr. Carl F. Scheuerle. Mr. Edwin B. Garrigues, President of the Presser Home, also addressed the audience. After the program the guests remained for a buffet luncheon, and they were received by the sixty-five residents residing in the Home.

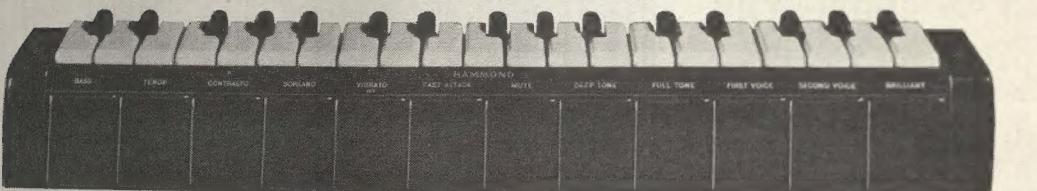
The Presser Home for Retired Musicians comes into the picture at any time from unexpected visits of friends passing through the city or from the many tourists who come to Philadelphia. It is delightfully located in a quiet residential section of the city, surrounded by a large garden, in the suburb of Germantown.

**THE PHILADELPHIA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**, of which the late Theodore Presser was the founder in 1891, presented to the Presser Home for Retired Music Teachers in Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa. (101 West Johnson Street), a magnificent bronze tablet dedicated to the memory of the Founder. The occasion was Founder's Day, which is celebrated biennially at the Home. The P.M.T.A. made this event one of the series of commemorations forming a part of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the founding of the P.M.T.A. The beautiful tablet, designed and executed by one of Philadelphia's leading jewelers (the J. E. Caldwell Company), measures three feet by three feet, six inches. The tablet was presented at the Home on June seventeenth, before a large audience, including many distinguished musicians and citizens in other fields in the city of Philadelphia. Mr. Lewis J. Howell, President of the P.M.T.A., made the presentation speech, supplemented by Miss F. L. T. Seabury, for many years Secretary of the Association. Dr. James Francis Cooke, President of the Presser Foundation, who presided at the celebra-

**(Continued on Page**

# New Instrument Opportunities for Piano Teachers

By Paul G. Faulkner



The Solovox keyboard and tone selectors. This may be attached to any piano keyboard

ONE OF THE BEST KNOWN VIOLINISTS, in a large symphony orchestra in the East, was retired because of age. As far as he was concerned, he felt that he had the mentality and physical vitality of a man of thirty-five. His friends thought likewise. In the orchestra he had received one hundred dollars a week; and then, almost overnight, he found himself reduced to a small pension and a small class of pupils. Depressed with the feeling that he had been cut down in his prime, he strolled into a music store and heard a young man play upon an instrument then coming into great vogue. It was not a severe classical instrument upon which the musician had been trained at Leipzig; but he saw how fine music rather than trash, could be adapted to this newly popular instrument. With his wide musical training he mastered the new instrument in a few months and also taught his musical wife. In a little over a year, they had formed classes so large that they were required to engage assistants, increasing their joint income to over two hundred and fifty dollars a week during the season. This was a far larger income than they had ever had, and they were happy in a new field. If this man had "stood on his dignity" and failed to open the gates to a larger musical public, he would have met disaster.

It was just a little over a year ago that I went into an exclusive piano store, which handled one of the most famous of all keyboard instruments. I knew the proprietor very well indeed. He was a fairly accomplished player. As we were talking over some details of the coming season—a season which did not look any too propitious to me—a mother entered the store with a boy who seemed about as unhappy as any thirteen-year-old high school freshman could be.

#### Impressing the Young Hopeful

"Now see here, Ma," he said, "there isn't any use buying me a piano because I just won't practice on it. I'm going in for football and if I can't make the team, I'll go in the band. Now if you wanted me to play the trombone or the saxophone, it would be different."

My friend, the proprietor, had a Scotch streak

in him, and he was good and canny. He said, "I'm with you, Son. I play the trombone, too, but I think that I play the trombone very much better because I also know how to play the piano. Why? Because the piano takes in all music, whereas learning one solo instrument takes in only one line. I feel that it is a wonderful experience to learn to play the piano and also to play a band instrument or an orchestral instrument. Did you ever see this instrument here? It is called a Solovox (solo voice). Look at this little keyboard just below the other keyboard."

The boy clumsily put his fingers upon it and said, "Looks like a doll's piano." "That's just what it is not. It is really a whole collection of solo instruments. One great orchestral conductor, Fritz Reiner, whom you hear over the radio on the Ford Hour and in other top line broadcasts, said of this Solovox, which you call a *doll's piano*, Its endless possibilities for creating new and fascinating sound effects, in combination with the piano, will kindle the imagination of every pianist. In fact, the Solovox may revitalize the present style of writing for the piano."

"I guess I must be all wet," said the boy. "Will it really imitate instruments?"

"Well," said the proprietor, "a better term might be 'simulate,' but the similarity is such that nearly everyone is amazed. Listen to all of these different instruments."

The proprietor went on playing tunes which brought out the solo quality of these orchestral instruments—violin, flute, piccolo, oboe, English horn, soprano saxophone, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, bassoon, trumpet, muted horn, French horn, violoncello, and organ. Some of these tones strikingly resembled those of the instruments. Others required a little stretch of the imagination, but all of the tone qualities were beautiful; and I noticed dozens of combinations (brought about with great

ease through inconspicuous tilting levers, which were entirely new to my ears and often of great timbre.

#### Music Lovers Without Number

Meanwhile, the boy became more and more interested, and so did I. My entire bringing up as a musician, pianist, and teacher had been strictly orthodox. It ran the conventional gamut of the usual beginner's materials, that I liked to call "legitimate," through Kunz's "Canons," Bach's "Inventions," through Czerny, Cramer, Moscheles, Clementi, and the usual series of master works from Scarlatti and Handel to Debussy and Scriabin. Oh, yes, I was a Brahman. I turned up my nose at anything that did not come within the bounds of the holy circle I had inherited from my teachers. Those who seemed to enjoy music out of my circle I looked upon as "unintelligible." I did not realize that I had been isolating myself from the vast world of human beings outside my circle who could never enter my field as performers. My conversion to the possibilities of this new musical territory came like a miracle and was one of the most profitable and enjoyable experiences of my life. I have not lost anything of my orthodox musical training or my professional dignity, but I have added greatly to my income and have stretched my hide-bound narrowness until I am again in tune with the larger world from which I had kept aloof.

The proprietor gained the interest of the boy and his mother. She bought a piano for him, but it was a piano with the Solovox attachment.

The more I saw and heard of this innocent-looking little keyboard, the greater was my in-



Paul Taubman playing the Solovox

terest. It is an accessory to the piano, the pipe organ, and the electric organ. The thirty-six miniature keys are made from Dupont plastic. The white keys are only two inches long, in contrast with the ordinary white piano keys, which are five and one-half inches long. Yet, in this range of only three octaves, there is a tone range board of

(Continued on Page 776)

# Some Things I Have Learned From Teaching

A Conference with

*Harold Bauer*

World-Renowned Pianist

Secured Especially for THE ETUDE by JOHN SHERWOOD

ACCEPTED MY FIRST PIANO STUDENT with apprehensions. Having had no piano instruction myself (I was a violinist and taught myself whatever I knew of the piano), I could hardly pass on a set system of instruction to anyone. Where another teacher could speak authoritatively of this or that "method," I could only say: "This is what I have done, and it has proved helpful to me." With the experience of teaching, however, that first apprehension has subsided. I have learned that "methods" are

active participation in interpreting this work. Such a class system, in my opinion, is more musical and more satisfying than indicating what a student must do "because I say so." An alert teacher can readily see that no unmusical slips occur, and the students are encouraged to take the vital step of thinking for themselves—especially when they feel the responsibility of justifying their individual opinions by demonstrations before the others. The goal of music study, after all, is the making of music; and the technical aids to fine music-making—such as



Harold Bauer

#### Advantage of Class Discussion

Approaching teaching in this light, I find that the piano class has a certain advantage over individual work with separate students. A group of pupils, of approximately the same degree of advancement, meet with their teacher; together they discuss some composition, endeavoring to draw from it the intentions of the composer and the best way of realizing them. At once, such informed discussion opens vistas and clarifies points of view. First, one plays the work, and another criticizes him, not in terms of "good and bad," but in terms of his own musical approach to the passage. A third may criticize the critic. Each one who offers an opinion must justify it by practical demonstrations on the keyboard. Finally, the members of the group try to judge which interpretation is musically the most satisfying, asking each other questions, all the while, as to how some specially pleasing effect was achieved. The teacher serves as arbitrator, or moderator, of all discussions and examples, keeping the talk and the playing strictly within musical bounds. I have spent hours in such discussion of Bach's "First Invention," and both my students and I have derived

accuracy, strict rhythm, clean playing—become stimulated when the performer knows he is being judged by an aware and critical audience, each member of which is burning to justify himself in like manner. Even little beginners may be given their first taste of piano study in participative classes of their inexperienced but enthusiastic peers.

**The True Teacher Helps Pupil to Help Himself**

A certain intimate relationship is bound to exist between teacher and pupil, and the pupil's enthu-

siasm for his work—which is just another way of referring to his progress—can be materially affected by the nature of this relationship quite as much as by the actual facts explained to him. Sometimes, regrettably, the relationship is that of tyrant and slave. Another questionable attitude results when the teacher assures his pupil that all will go well if only he is sufficiently "inspired." The pupil may like this better, but it does him no good. I have found that the most satisfactory progress results when teacher and pupil stand in the relation of doctor and patient. That is to say, the teacher is made aware of all the facts in the pupil's musical case history, good and bad alike, without hesitation; then he analyzes these facts and makes his diagnosis, as the result of which he offers advice. From this point on, the pupil acts independently, applying the advice for himself. Truly musical expression can hardly be achieved on any other basis. No one can tell another human being exactly how to get his musical effects. Directly a pupil is told what to do, the effects cease to be his own. It is a better plan, I find, to encourage the student to do his best, whatever that best may be; to lie in wait, as it were, for the truly right and satisfying musical expression—the occasional glimpse of pure beauty resulting from the perfectly sonorous tone, the perfectly balanced phrase—and then to analyze this effect, taking it apart in terms of what the student himself did to achieve it. On such a basis, he will know how to do it again, and the knowledge, as well as the effect, will be his own.

#### Detailed Analysis Reveals Unperceived Beauty

There are a number of aids to fine playing, of course, and the pleasant thing about them is that they can usually be analyzed and thus reduced to simple, rational terms. Let the pupil early be made aware, for instance, that the pressing down of single keys means very little, no matter how fleetly they may be made to sound. Music results only from the relationship (of tone, color, dynamics, and balance) between the notes of a musical phrase. Playing loudly or lyrically or boldly has meaning only in comparison with what has come before and what follows. Further, let the pupil learn to treat chords in terms of the notes to be emphasized and those to be subdued. You can derive different effects from the C-major chord, according to whether you stress the root, the third, the fifth, the octave, or all four equally. Observe this; then, later on, when you come to the sonorous chords of Brahms, you have a wealth of color possibilities to choose from, according to your interpretive accents.

For this reason, the pupil should be early encouraged to master all the materials at hand; to understand the possibilities of the printed notes, and also the resources of his instrument, upon which interpretive thought comes to life. Never be afraid to think things through! It is a profound mistake to suppose that emotional beauties vanish on close analysis. (This is the theory of the "don't-brush-the-bloom-from-the-peach" school of thought, which fails utterly to realize that the bloom of the peach looks even lovelier when examined under the microscope.) On the contrary, the more penetratingly we search into the causes of emotional beauties,

## An Intimate Tribute to Paderewski

the better shall we understand their management.

Take the question of piano tone, for instance. A truly beautiful tone is too personal and mysterious to be analyzed? Not a bit of it! Anyone can produce and vary beautiful effects at will—provided he understands how piano tone is effected by the percussive noises of the instrument itself. The structure of the piano gives rise to three percussive notes. The first—and this one is always present—is caused by the knocking of the hammer against its string. Even if we do not hear this knocking as a separate sound, it is there, and it modifies the quality of the tone (as is readily proven when the string is plucked or electrically vibrated). In second place, there is the striking of the finger on the key; and, third, the striking of the key against the bed of the piano when it is forced down the full way. If we understand these accessory (though possibly indistinguishable) noises, the approach to tone becomes clarified. We see that the only possible way to vary tone—apart from intentional dynamic gradations of loudness and softness—is to use these three factors in different combinations. To eliminate the striking of the finger on the key, one has only to press the key, and immediately a very different, more lyrical tone results. To avoid the knock of the key into its bed, one strokes it swiftly, and again a very different tone results. It is neither inspiration nor genius which colors a pianist's tone, but a very straight, clear analysis of the materials at hand.

In similar fashion, rhythmic accuracy can be analyzed as to its essential factors, which are found to be physical rather than musical. If a pupil finds persistent difficulty with rhythm—which is a different matter from carelessness in keeping tempo—let him turn away from the piano and devote some time to marching, dancing, or doing precise calisthenics. I have hardly ever found a truly rhythmical person who is awkward in his gestures. An excellent musical drill for rhythmic accuracy is the playing of chamber music. Here, there is no conductor's beat to lead the players. There is no "boss" at all, save the unseen spirit of good performance. To gratify this spirit, all the players must be on their mettle to do the most accurate work possible.

### Overcoming Opposing Rhythms

A useful occasion to insist upon energetic analysis occurs when the pupil begins to find difficulty with opposing rhythms. Many young students consider this a serious musical problem. Actually, it is no musical problem at all. It is a matter of straight arithmetic, and anyone who has had the advantage of even a grade-school education finds here an excellent chance of putting his studies in fractions to work for him. When you have a two-part rhythm in the left hand against a three-part rhythm in the right, do not fall into the trial and error method of getting them right. Take out your pencil, instead, and find the least common denominator of two and three. You will find it is six. Now all you need to do is to count six to each measure (regardless, for the moment, of the indicated time signature), letting your left hand come in on counts of two apart, and your right hand, on counts of three apart. Not only does this help you get the rhythm, but you understand why it comes out as it does, and immediately it ceases to be difficult.

To achieve dependable memorization, the pupil should be encouraged (*Continued on Page 789*)

PADEREWSKI'S TRIBUTE WATCH  
Paderewski's Polish friends presented him with this remarkable watch, bearing his name, part of the melody of his famous *Minuet*, and a representation of the piano keyboard.

place, not only in the hearts of his own countrymen, but of all right-thinking people in the world. And the world will long remember and honor him for these attainments.

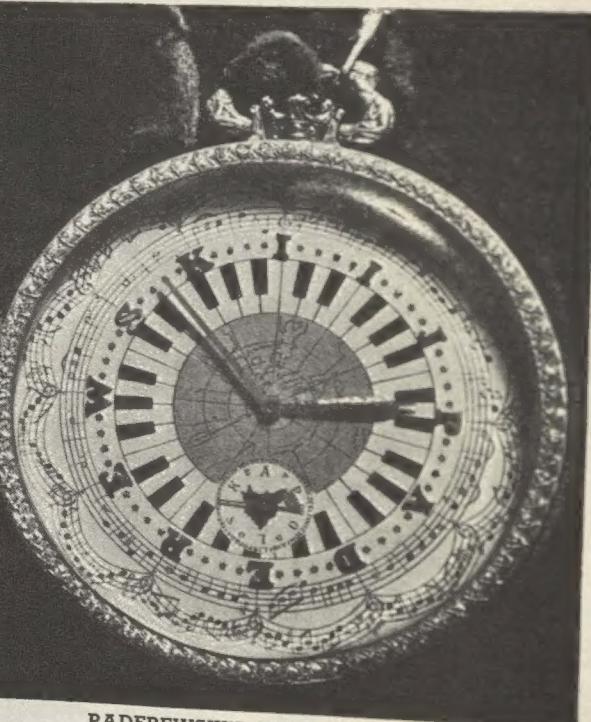
"But it is as a man that I would like him to be remembered, as I shall remember him—as a great soul, a true friend, and a man whose walk through life was clothed with dignity and beauty. In his life he went through almost every variety of human experience, from the glamorous excitement of the greatest possible personal triumph

on the concert platform to the most depths of personal and private sorrow. He bore them all with dignity and nobility. He could not turn him from the simplicity and pose of his life, nor could the sorrow detract from his faith in and his love of mankind.

"If ever there lived a man who had that in abundance, it was Paderewski. His every move in life personally, socially and economically was for the benefit and improvement of his fellow men.

"I could tell you a great many things about him, personal things, remembrances of hours spent in his company, memories of great and stirring days through which he lived. Perhaps one incident will suffice. I was privileged to represent a large group of artists and citizens of New York who desired to send him an appropriate birthday greeting on the occasion of his seventieth birthday, just ten years ago. He was at the moment in Toronto giving a recital. I went there and was invited to dine with him on his return car after the concert. So after the concert we went out to the railroad yards where his car was parked. We dined at one o'clock in the morning, and after dinner I rose and with halting words and much emotion tried to convey to him the deep love and devotion that accompanied the birthday scroll. I had been told to tell him how much he meant to us all here and how great his genius and musicianship had influenced our musical lives. The master listened in silence until I rose and delivered to me one of those magnificent and stirring speeches for which he was famous. He completely turned the tables on me. How much had he meant to us here? None more. How much had we here meant to him and how deeply grateful was he to us for our great love and appreciation for him, and would I please go back and tell that to New York? It was typical of the man. When I left him early in the morning I had a vision I shall never forget: the prancing car of the master silently pulling out of the station in the softly falling snow, bound for who knows what future triumphs.

"His passing is the end of an epoch in music, but in passing he has left with us something that neither time, nor distance, nor that human frailty, forgetfulness, can altogether destroy. He has left with us the precious thought that even in this much troubled world the goodness of mankind still exists, and that decency, nobility and greatness in the human being can still be found. Therefore in the midst of our sorrow we rejoice because we have not lost him, Poland has not lost him, and the world has not lost him."



### "My Teacher Is a Lady"

By Esther Dixon

"My teacher is a lady, because she is always kind." This remark was overheard while children were playing in the yard. The wisdom behind these words holds true in life as well as in music for best results are always obtained eventually by those who are kind. The day of the old-fashioned, eccentric teacher is passed; and to-day our best teachers are kind, though firm, human, sympathetic, and always well informed. Teachers who treat their pupils as friends and contemporaries, and who give them an unvarying impression of good breeding, gentility, and patience, thereby winning and retaining the respect of the pupil, have a great pedagogical asset. Their personal influence upon the student reaches far beyond the boundaries of music.

# Russian Nationalist Composers

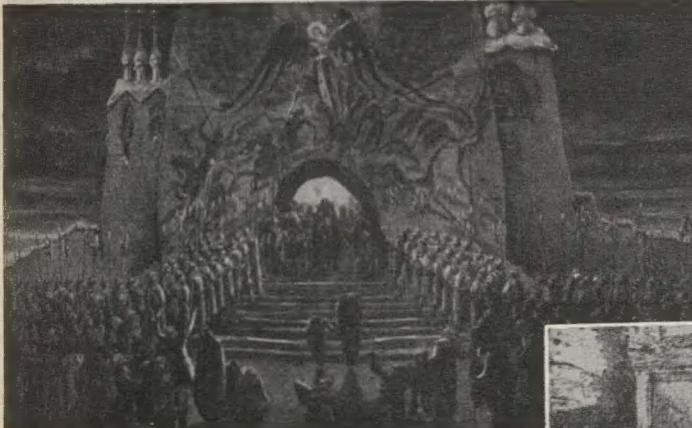
By  
*Edward Burlingame Hill*

Professor of Musical History,  
Harvard University

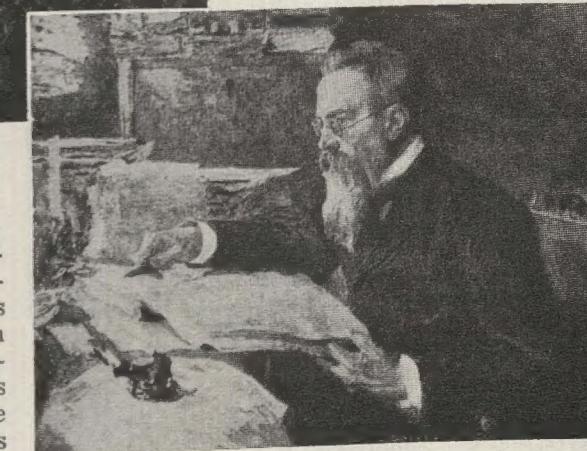
### PART III

#### Borodin

Alexander Borodin (1834-1887) is perhaps the most human figure of the Nationalistic group. He was particularly fitted by birth for many of the subjects he chose to clothe in music, since his father was a Prince of Imeretia, in Eastern Russia, while his mother was a Russian lady. Thus the "Orientalism" in "Prince Igor" and *On the Steppes of Central Asia*, in portions of his symphonies, in certain songs and piano pieces, reflected spontaneously his Eastern heritage. It was Borodin's misfortune to feel equally drawn toward science and music. He was by profession a chemist, and lectured almost to the day



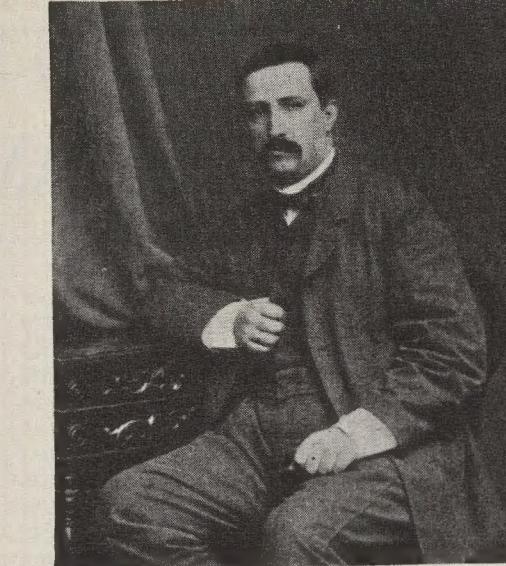
Scene from Rimsky-Korsakoff's opera, "The Legend of the Invisible City," first given in 1907.



Nikolai Andreyevitch Rimsky-Korsakoff.  
From an etching by William Strasser, based upon the famous oil painting by Serow.

of his death at the School of Medicine for Women in which he was instrumental in founding. Rimsky-Korsakoff has given a convincing analysis of this endless conflict in Borodin's life between science and music; his lectures, committee meetings, and routine correspondence; his sleepless nights, trying to relieve his wife's asthma; the inopportune visits of relatives; the numerous stray cats whom he harbored in his apartment. Some days he went without dinner; on others he ate two. Rimsky-Korsakoff justly complains that much of the harassing administrative routine could have been carried on by someone who did not possess Borodin's gift as a composer. Indeed, his musical work was accomplished only in the rare intervals between his academic engagements, and sometimes during periods of ill health when he was unable to go to his laboratory.

Soon after his meeting with Balakirev in the early sixties, the latter insisted that Borodin, despite his inexperience, compose a symphony—which required five years to complete. It is



Alexander Borodin

orchestral field, shows a better command of symphonic technic, more concise development, more spontaneity of expression. Later, Borodin returned to "Prince Igor," at which he worked with enthusiasm, though intermittently, until his sudden death at the age of forty-four. The first two acts of this opera, including the popular *Polovtsian Dances*, were completed and orchestrated by Borodin himself. Much of the remainder, as well as virtually the entire fourth act, was completed or composed from Borodin's sketches by Glazunoff, while Rimsky-Korsakoff made the orchestration. The overture was missing, but Glazunoff, who had often heard the composer play it, wrote it down from memory. Borodin's gifts are shown at their height in all of the Oriental music, including several arias, the *Polovtsian Dances*—especially those with chorus and the march of the Polovtsi, which contrast greatly with the Russian sections. While there is evidence of assimilation both from Glinka and Balakirev, the evidence in favor of Borodin's originality is so outstanding that this opera must be considered a monument of Nationalism second only to "Boris Godunoff." Another record of Borodin's dual nationality is to be found in the slight but charming sketch, *In the Steppes of Central Asia*, originally composed for some tabuleaux.

Borodin's musical invention was essentially lyric, so it is not surprising that his songs rank second to those of Mussorgsky, the greatest Russian composer of songs. While Borodin's songs are far removed from the human depth and the keen observation of life which distinguish those of Mussorgsky, they reveal refinement and originality of harmony and a marked capacity for reflecting an atmosphere of individual distinction. Such are *The Sleeping Princess*, *The Sea*, *Dissonance*, and *The Dark Forest*. A set of piano pieces, though unpretentious, shows identical qualities. Borodin's string quartets, while not without charm, suffer from a too constantly homophonic idiom.

Borodin, an incomplete figure by reason of the division of his energies between science and music, nevertheless remains a conspicuously talented member of the Nationalistic group.

#### Rimsky-Korsakoff

Although perhaps less gifted as to specific musical talent than any (*Continued on Page 775*)

## Music in the Home

**S**CHUMANN—*Symphony No. 3, in E-flat (Rhenish)*, Op. 97; New York Philharmonic-Symphony Orchestra, directed by Bruno Walter. Columbia Set M-464.

Schumann's "Rhenish Symphony" has a fullness of romanticism that has endeared it to many. Its solemn, quasi-religious fourth movement is the highlight. The work was written as a glorification of Rhenish scenes and life; and the *scherzo*, which Walter plays as effectively as any conductor we know, has the character of a country dance. The jubilant finale also is said to portray a Rhenish festival. The somewhat over-resonant character of the recording here can be corrected by reducing the bass volume control.

**Johann Strauss**—*Overtures and Waltzes*. Victor Album M-805. Bruno Walter conducting the Paris Conservatory, London Symphony, and Vienna Philharmonic Orchestras; and Georg Szell conducting the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra.

The finesse and subtlety of Walter's playing is particularly apparent in the two delightful Strauss overtures—*Die Fledermaus* and *Der Zigeunerbaron*—and in the *Emperor Waltz*, where the recording shows a clearer definition than in the Schumann symphony already mentioned. The performance of the *Blue Danube*, with Szell conducting, emerges as a routine reading after Walter's finely phrased playing.

**Berlioz**—*The Judges of the Secret Court Overture*, Op. 3, and *The King Lear Overture*, Op. 4. B.B.C. Symphony Orchestra, directed by Sir Adrian Boult. Victor Album M-803.

Here we have some of the best Berlioz playing on records, excellently reproduced. The first overture—*The Judges of the Secret Court*—is the only surviving excerpt from a youthful opera. Although an immature composition, already its orchestra texture shows the composer's ability in this sphere. The *King Lear Overture*, although inspired by the Shakespearean play, is not closely linked to it. As the late Donald Tovey said: "We shall only misunderstand this work so long as we try to connect it with Shakespeare's Lear at all. What Berlioz has achieved is exactly what he attempted: a magnificent piece of orchestral rhetoric in tragic style."

**Schubert**—*Die Winterreise*; Lotte Lehmann (soprano) with Paul Ulanowsky at the piano. Columbia Set M-466.

The emotional warmth that Mme. Lehmann brings to her lieder singing inevitably enhances her contributions in this field. Last year, the soprano recorded eleven songs from the same cycle (Victor Set M-692), and here she adds seven more—*Gute Nacht*, *Wasserflut*, *Letzte Hoffnung*, *Die Wetterfahne*, *Auf dem Flusse*, *Rest*, and *Frühlingstraum*. Although these songs were conceived for a masculine voice, we are not among those who feel that a soprano, even one with the warmly feminine qualities that Lehmann possesses, should not sing them. Her persuasive artistry transcends such precepts.

**American Works for Solo Wind Instruments and Orchestra**; Eastman-Rochester Symphony Orchestra, directed by Howard Hanson. Victor Album M-202.

# New Delights for Your Record Library

By

Peter Hugh Reed



Fritz Reiner

Records recommended in this department represent the considered opinion of the best experts in the field and form a valuable guide for the purchase of new recordings. No records unworthy of purchase for the record library are included in this department. The editor will answer in *The Etude* questions regarding noteworthy records when these questions are of interest to record buyers in general.

The works are *Soliloquy* (flute) by Bernard Rogers, and *Rhapsody "The Winter's Past"* (oboe) by Wayne Barlow (Disc 18101); *American Dance* (bassoon) by Burrill Phillips and *Serenade* (clarinet) by Homer Keller (Disc 18102). The best works of this set, those by Rogers and Barlow, undeniably possess an individuality of purpose and feeling. Keller's *Serenade*, although lacking true depth of feeling, is impressive in performance; but the Phillips' score, with its suggestion of folk derivation, seems to be limited

RECORDS

expressively by its solo instrument. The works are all well played by soloists from the Eastman School of Music.

**Beethoven**—*Concerto No. 3 in C minor*, Op. 57; José Iturbi, soloist and conductor with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. Victor Album M-801.

While the recording here is more brilliant than in the Schnabel set, the performance by no means dispels the earlier album. The piano here is too prominent, and the listener feels at times that Iturbi found it difficult to achieve successfully the rôle of soloist and conductor. Technically, Iturbi is often more impressive than Schnabel, but the latter achieves more depth of feeling.

**Alban Berg**—*Violin Concerto*; Louis Krasner and the Cleveland Orchestra, directed by Artur Rodzinski. Columbia Set M-465.

Alban Berg, the most significant of Schönberg's pupils and followers, has a romantic warmth which his master's atonal works do not possess. The "Violin Concerto" was written as a Requiem for Manon Gropius, the daughter of the widow of Gustav Mahler. It seems to us that few would fully penetrate Berg's idiom on a first hearing, since a thorough familiarity with his style and intentions is required. Louis Krasner gives a most impressive performance, which is further enhanced by Rodzinski's sympathetic handling of the orchestral part of the score. Here is an important contribution to modern music, one which deserves to be investigated by many music lovers.

**Debussy**—*String Quartet in G minor*; Budapest String Quartet. Columbia Set M-467.

The Budapest String Quartet gives the best performance of this work on records, even though the recording is of the over-resonant type which may make it difficult to clarify satisfactorily on some machines. This extraordinarily gifted foursome makes more of the rhythmic qualities of the work than any previous recording group.

**Dvořák**—*Carneval Overture*, Op. 92; Czech Philharmonic Orchestra, directed by Vaclav Talich. Victor Disc 12710. **Dvořák**—*Quintet in E-flat major*, Op. 97; Prague String Quartet with Richard Kosdlerka, second viola. Victor Album M-811.

It has been aptly said that no composer is a more congenial companion than Dvořák, which fact is borne out by these two compositions. Here we have the most sensitive exposition of the gay and colorful *Carneval Overture* on records. As for the quintet, it is a companion piece to the composer's "American Quartet" and his "Symphony from the New World." It was composed in this country, and embodies Dvořák's simulation of Negro and Indian melodies. This is a far richer score than that of the quartet, and deserves to be equally well known. Its performance by a group of the composer's own countrymen is most satisfactory.

**Handel**—*Concerti Grossi in G and D major*, Op. 6 Nos. 1 and 5; Herman Diener and his Collegium Musicum. Victor Album M-808.

Handel's Concerti Grossi are full of friendly spirit and patrician thought, and these two are especially appealing. There is much to say in defense of the smaller chamber ensemble (in place of the modern (Continued on Page 782)

# Musical Films Widely Acclaimed

By Donald Martin

**S**CHEDULED FOR MID-AUTUMN RELEASE is the first full-length feature to be sent out of the Walt Disney studios since "Fantasia." From the viewpoints of plot, human emotion, pictorial ingenuity, and musical novelty, Disney features are welcome news, and the new "Dumbo" is no exception. The action centers around the ugly duckling success story of *Dumbo*, the baby elephant, whose oversize ears first earned him the heartbreaking ridicule of all the circus animals but which finally enabled him to fly—straight to fame, happiness, and a Hollywood contract. The animated episodes combine nonsense and sentiment in typically Disney fashion.

There is a delightful and elaborate musical score, reflecting the circus setting. Nine special song numbers are scattered throughout the film, three of which, at least, bid fair to vie with older Disney tunes (like *Heigh-Ho*, *Who's Afraid of the Big, Bad Wolf?* and *When You Wish Upon a Star*) in hit-quality popularity. These are *Look Out for Mr. Stork*, *When I See an Elephant Fly*, and the lullabye, *Baby Mine*. All but two of the songs are the work of Frank Churchill, who composed the songs for "Snow White" and "The Three Little Pigs." Of the Marlborough family of Churchills (which includes the present Prime Minister of

England), young Frank was destined for a medical career. In order to finance his studies, he played the piano, at night, in motion picture houses. In time, his love of music asserted itself, and he determined upon a musician's career. His formal musical education has been meager; he is almost entirely self-taught, and has had but two semesters of theory and composition. His entrance into the musical world was as a professional pianist. His composing dates from 1930, when he joined the Walt Disney organization. To-day, he plays piano only for his own amusement. Unlike most tunesmiths, Churchill can write his songs without first having the lyrics to guide him as to setting, tempo, rhythm, and tone.

He can work out a complete hit-song from an idea, a scene, or a hurried view of a sequence. In addition to his notable successes under the Disney aegis (including *Big Bad Wolf*, *Heigh-Ho*, *Whistle While You Work*), Mr. Churchill has a number of formal ballads to his credit, as well as the score for the San Francisco World's Fair of 1939. He is at present at work on the score for Disney's forthcoming "Bambi," an adaptation of Felix Salten's story, to be released in the spring.

Other songs include *Pink Elephants on Parade*, *Casey Jr.*, *It's Circus Day Again*, *Spread Your Wings*, *Clown Song*, and *Song of the Roustabouts*. "Dumbo" is capital entertainment.

Underneath the nonsense of the story, there is genuine pathos and suspense, notably in the scene in which *Timothy* engineers a visit to *Dumbo's* imprisoned mother. *Dumbo* himself does not talk in the film; his only sounds are hiccuping and crying, but every least reaction of hopefulness, loneliness, fear, and joy is vividly recorded by his

facial expression. The "cast," of course, consists of animated cartoons; the voices are those of Cliff Edwards as the *Black Crow*, Ed Brophy as *Timothy*, Verna Felton as the *Matriarch Elephant*, Herman Bing as the *Circus Master*, and Sterling Holloway as the *Stork*.

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MUSICAL FILMS



Baby Dumbo from the new Walt Disney full-length musical feature

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer is releasing a new technicolor version of "Smilin' Through," a tender love-story with a rich musical background. An all-star cast is headed by Jeanette MacDonald, Brian Aherne, Gene Raymond and Ian Hunter, and includes Patrick O'Moore, Frances Robinson, and seven-year-old Jackie Horner. The film marks Miss MacDonald's first screen appearance since her recent tour as concert soprano. It marks still another "first," in that it teams Miss MacDonald with her husband, Gene Raymond, in the romantic leads. For the first time they appear together in the same picture, and also playing opposite each other. Miss MacDonald is seen in a dual characterization. She plays both the tragic *Moonyean*, killed on the eve of her marriage, and also the young niece, *Kathleen*, who falls in love with the son of the man who murdered her aunt. The story, spanning the years from 1868 to 1919, shows Gene Raymond as the disappointed suitor and, in its later sequences, as the son, *Kathleen's* lover. Twenty-three-year-old Frances Robinson realizes the ambition of every young actress—that of playing a character rôle. As *Ellen*, the faithful maid, Miss Robinson fades out of the picture as a woman in her mid-seventies.

Under the direction of Herbert Stothart, an elaborate musical score has been prepared for the film. The theme song, *Smilin' Through*, inspired by the original stage play, is woven throughout the sequences. The songs sung by Miss MacDonald mark a change from operatic arias to loved and familiar ballads, including *Drink To Me Only With Thine Eyes*, *Kerry Dance*, *A Little Love*, *A Little Kiss*, *There Are Smiles*, *The Long, Long Trail*, and *Land of Hope and Glory*. A number of terms of endearment in the Gaelic tongue are used in the film, all of which are likely to set a new vogue in love-making. M-G-M helpfully supplies a glossary of romantic terms with an Irish accent, from which we advise those interested that "Agraw gal Machree" means "bright love of my heart," "Mavourneen deelish" means "my faithful darling," and "A cushla agus Asthore Machree" means "O pulse and treasure of my heart." Regrettably, a key to pronunciation has been omitted.

Jack Dawn, M-G-M make-up chief, has devised character make-ups suitable for technicolor. Heretofore, sculpture alone has been relied upon to give the illusion of old age in color films, with the result that skin tones have been in grayish luster or red hues. Advancing on the principle that the pigmentation of skin combined with technicolor light results in natural tones, Dawn experimented with color mixtures. In Brian Aherne's make-up, for example, five separate shades were used instead of one. These are painted on the basic sculptured skin foundation which is built upon the star's face and moulded into sagging jaws, loose facial muscles, and wrinkled eyelids. The production is under the direction of Frank Borzage, whose romantic screen successes include "Seventh Heaven," "Farewell to Arms," and "The Mortal Storm." "Smilin' Through" is produced by Victor Saville. (Continued on Page 782)

# Musical Radiations on the Ether

By Alfred Lindsay Morgan

ALTHOUGH LAST MONTH saw the beginning of the fall and winter music season on the airways, advance news was not forthcoming in time to carry in these columns a full report on the plans for the major programs. Fortunately, this month we are able to forecast coming events.

Leopold Stokowski figures prominently in the orchestral programs to be heard this winter, for he is associated both with the New York Philharmonic-Symphony and the NBC Symphony Orchestras. The Philharmonic programs, which are broadcast Sundays from 3 to 4:30 P.M., New York time, feature this year a group of prominent orchestral leaders. Besides John Barbirolli, who is the orchestra's regular conductor, there are to be heard Stokowski, Bruno Walter, Artur Rodzinski, Dimitri Mitropoulos, Fritz Busch, Serge Koussevitzky, and Eugene Goossens.

On October 12th, the season officially opened with Stokowski conducting. Three conductors are scheduled to lead the orchestra concerts in the Sunday broadcasts this month: Barbirolli, November 2nd; Bruno Walter, November 9th and 16th; and Artur Rodzinski of the Cleveland Orchestra, November 23rd and 30th.

Among the distinguished soloists to appear in the Sunday afternoon concerts are pianists Josef Hoffmann, Robert Casadesus, Reginald Stewart, Artur Rubinstein, Eugene List, Artur Schnabel, and Rudolf Serkin; violinists Adolf Busch, Zino Francescatti and Mishel Piastro; and violoncellist Joseph Schuster. Two major and infrequently heard choral works—Mozart's "Requiem" and Mahler's "Second (Resurrection) Symphony"—are scheduled for broadcast during the season, which is the Centennial of the orchestra.

## The New York Philharmonic-Symphony Centennial

The oldest symphony orchestra in the United States and the third oldest in the world, it was founded on April 22, 1842, by a group of public-spirited citizens who proposed the establishment of a "large and permanent society" whose objective should be "the study and rendering of symphonies, overtures, and other classical music in such a manner as to cultivate a more general knowledge and a more correct public taste." During its career, the Philharmonic has had many eminent conductors. Theodore Thomas, who became the orchestra's conductor in 1878, "did more," according to the late James Huneker, "for orchestral music in North America than any previous conductor." Four others who contributed to the fullest appreciation of orchestral music in this country were Anton Seidl (1892-1898), Gustav Mahler (1910-1912), Willem Mengelberg (1927-1930), and Arturo Toscanini (1927-1936). Of these, Mengelberg and Toscanini were the only conductors who were able to promote the appreciation of



Sir Ernest MacMillan, guest conductor, NBC Symphony Orchestra.

orchestral music through radio. When one looks back on the history of such an organization, one wonders how musical appreciation in this country might have grown if such men as Thomas, Seidl and Mahler could also have had the advantages of radio promotion.

The NBC Symphony Orchestra this season is broadcasting on Tuesday, instead of Saturday, nights from 9:30 to 10:30 P.M., EST (Blue network).

The need for a rest, after four consecutive seasons with the orchestra, caused Toscanini to retire from the leadership this year. NBC still hopes, however, that the Italian maestro will decide at a later date to conduct a number of concerts. The prospectus for the season includes eleven different conductors. Stokowski is scheduled to lead the concerts of November 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th, and will conclude the season with four more concerts at the end of March and the beginning of April. The season officially opened on October 7th with Dimitri Mitropoulos of the Minneapolis Symphony; his two concerts were followed by two others under the direction of Efrem Kurtz. The conductor of the Théâtre Colon in Buenos Aires, Juan José Castro, will follow Stokowski for three concerts during December. Thereafter Sir Ernest MacMillan, Georg Szell, Dean Dixon, Dr. Frank Black, Alfred Wallenstein, Fritz Reiner, and Sol Caston will officiate as leaders before the return of Mr. Stokowski on March 24th.

Eugene Ormandy, conductor of the Philadelphia Orchestra, plans to make the three B's—those concerts which are scheduled to be heard this season over the Mutual network, Fridays at 2:30, EST. Several soloists are to appear in the cycle of broadcasts; these include pianists Artur Rubinstein, Sari Biro, Hilde Somer, Jeanne Behrend; and a new American contralto, Blanche Thebom, who makes her début as soloist in Brahms' *Alto Rhapsody*. Works of Roy Harris and

RADIO

Villa-Lobos are scheduled for early hearings. conductor of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Sir Ernest MacMillan, will be a guest conductor for one of the radio concerts.

Erno Rapé, conductor of the orchestra of Radio City Music Hall programs, recently began his fall and winter season (12:30 to 1:30 P.M., EST (NBC-Blue network)). Mr. Rapé plans this period to include symphonies and other orchestral selections, interspersed with vocal selections by different soloists in his concerts.

The Ford Sunday Evening Hour (CBS network—9 to 10 P.M., EST) began its eighth consecutive season on September 28th, with Lawrence Tibbett as soloist and Sir Thomas Beecham as conductor. On November 2nd, the soloist will be the distinguished violinist, Joseph Szigeti, with George Szell conducting. On November 9th, Rose Bampton, the Metropolitan soprano, will be heard; and José Iturbi will conduct the orchestra. Lawrence Tibbett returns as soloist on November 16th, when Wilfred Pelletier conducts the orchestra. Leopold Stokowski is the scheduled soloist for November 23rd, and Eugene Ormandy the conductor on November 30th. Helen Jepson, soprano, and Charles Hackett, tenor, with Eugene Ormandy, will be heard.

"Music in Western Civilization"

By Paul Henry Láng

Pages: 1107

Price: \$5.00

Publishers: W. W. Norton and Co., Inc.

## ORIENTING NEW MUSIC

Just what is happening to music in the much scrambled world of to-day is the subject of natural, widespread interest. So much of new music or so-called music is like the extravagant, fanatical curiosities of surrealistic painting that one really does need some kind of guide to help in orienting oneself in the new world of the tone-art where just "being different" is put forward as a grace far above and beyond the satisfaction of the human need for beauty. Sane commentators, competent or incompetent, have all had their say, but there is apparently only one subject upon which these investigators are consonant and that is that elaborate effort and astonishing technique do not succeed in producing a master, if there is not first a man with a distinctively musical genius. In other words, the theatrical garments and make-up of a king do not make a king.

The latest survey of contemporary European and American composers comes from the pen of the pianist-composer, Aaron Copland. Whatever may be your opinion of Copland as a composer, he manifestly has the writer's gift of writing with clarity, balance, and effectiveness, which ensnares the reader's interest while he conveys his information.

His initial premise is based upon the thought that musical advance depends upon the degree with which the world pulls away from the romantic traditions, largely German, which we have inherited from the nineteenth century. He finds a "universality of feeling" in a Russian folk tune much more intimate than that in German folk music. He credits the Russian masters and those of France, particularly Debussy and Ravel, with making the change from the orthodox Teutonic music. Richard Strauss, to Copland, is "decadent." He feels that the German master's latest symphonies, *Quixote*, *Domestic*, and *Alpine* leave one with a "bloated feeling as of something indigestible and somewhat monstrous."

When Columbia's "School of the Air" began its season on October 6th, it inaugurated its second year as an "educational project" for the entire Western World. The classroom audiences tuning in this season are expected to be much larger, especially among the Latin-American nations. For Pan-Americanism is to be emphasized in all five series that make up the school's 1941-42 schedule. Among our Southern neighbors who have shown great interest in these programs is Mexico, which has ordered the purchase of radio sets for its classrooms (Continued on Page 780).

THE ETUDE

NOVEMBER, 1941

# The Etude Music Lover's Bookshelf



Any book here reviewed may be secured from THE ETUDE MUSIC MAGAZINE at the price given plus postage.

By B. Meredith Cadman

The descriptions are spirited and adroit, so that the reader's interest is continually held. One chapter of twenty pages he frankly devotes to a "Composer from Brooklyn," which is his ingenious way of inserting his own biography. Very stimulating and helpful are the chapters upon "The World of the Phonograph" and "Music in the Films." An excellent list of phonograph records also appears.

"Our New Music"

By Aaron Copland

Pages: 305

Price: \$2.50

Publisher: Whittlesey House

## CHOREOGRAPHIC MUSIC

The employment of the "choreography" as a generic term for dancing is so recent that a Funk and Wagnalls dictionary of one hundred forty thousand words, published just a dozen years ago, makes no mention of it. There is, however, a kind of clairvoyant intimation of its orthography in the word chorea, which is the medical term for St. Vitus's dance. Certainly many of the jitterbug garments and make-up of a king do not make a king.

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parallels the growth of all civilization. It is just as natural to dance as it is to sing. As in the case of singing, we wish that many would do their dancing in private. On the other hand, dancing in its highest sense, may become not merely entertaining, but exquisitely beautiful and inspiring.

The finest work your reviewer has yet seen upon the music of the dance is the recently published "Choreographic Music" by Verna Arvey, well known to readers of THE ETUDE through her many articles in this publication. Miss Arvey takes the reader from Zulu dances in the African jungle down to the age of Loie Fuller, Isadora Duncan, Ruth St. Denis, Ted Shawn, La Argentina, M. Fokine, and Pavlova. You will have a higher respect and a very much better understanding of the ballet and you will also be better able to play ballet music after you have read Miss Arvey's authoritative and entertaining work upon the subject.

Dancing has had its friends and opponents for ages. We are not surprised that one Master Stubbs in England in 1583, in his "Anatomy of Abuses," speaks of "the horrible vice of pestiferous dancing" because, only a few years later, the Puritan movement was in full sway. The pendulum of public opinion had made a wide swing from the ritual dances so popular in the churches of Southwestern Europe for nearly a thousand years to the dance hall cavaertings of to-day. The ballet, however, is the result of long and carefully studied convention and aesthetic principles. There is an ocean-wide distance between the old-fashioned cavaertings of vaudeville hoofers and the wizardry of Adeline Genée, Maude Allen, or Anna Enters.

Miss Arvey traces dance music from folk tunes to its higher development. Many of the evolutions are curious. For instance, she says "To her folksong, Ach, du Lieber Augustin, Germany is said to owe the typically racial German Waltz. The song was used in a ballet by Gardel, called 'La Dansomanie,' produced in Paris in 1793. From it the German Waltz developed." The waltz did become a mania only a few decades later, as did the polka. The intoxication of the dance breaking out either endemically or epidemically is a type of phenomenon often discussed by psychologists.

The ballet, like Topsy, "just grew." Judging from ancient pictures, it probably sprang up (Continued on Page 792)

BOOKS



School of the Dance by Degas

like some nervous disease than "poetry of motion." The Dance, however, has been one of the chief mediums of emotional expression for centuries. Its origin is aboriginal. Its development

## To Study, or Not To Study

I cannot help feeling sorry for teachers unable to continue their musical studies; but for those thousands—ages eighteen to eighty-one—who could and should take regular lessons, enroll for winter classes or attend short summer courses, but fail to do so, I have no patience whatsoever. And I do not consider age, length of service, heavy teaching schedules and all the usual "pat" excuses good reasons for not studying. There are, of course, cases of ill health, poverty, limited vitality, remote location, back-breaking domestic or business duties, or invalid care, in addition to teaching activity—all of which are valid reasons. But alas, most teachers do not want to study; they worked thirty-five years ago with the famous Mr. So-and-So; they graduated in their youth from the Leipzig Conservatory; they are too old; or they know it all. Yet, I ask you, would you let a dentist "monkey" with your teeth, who had not studied for twenty-five years? Would you put your trust in an oculist who still uses the methods of fifty years ago? Or consult an engineer not thoroughly abreast of modern developments? . . . Yes, the members of all professions study constantly—school teachers and college professors, doctors, lawyers—all of course except the music teachers. Musicians study? Perish the thought!

If you do not possess that self-starting inner drive which compels technical and musical growth (all the best teachers do!), how can you fail to see that modern competitive methods require the professional to be up on his toes every minute in order to survive? Of course it takes sacrifice—any worth while project does—but the result more than justifies the hardships involved. Is your class dwindling? Are your lessons flat, stale and unprofitable? Have you been using the same teaching material for the last five years (and note, I didn't say twenty-five years!)? Has your own playing gone completely to seed? Does that despairing, frustrated feeling persist in getting you down?

Sounds just like a patent medicine advertisement, doesn't it? With this difference—I advise you to secure a musical specialist at once, a fine, sensitive teacher, who, I am sure, will prescribe regular concentrated doses of lessons and daily practice, to bring back elasticity to your ailing mind, muscles and spirit. Or perhaps what you need is a short intensive "cure" to sweep out those cobwebs and to start some healthy new brain grooves. Budget your income now. Put a little aside regularly each week, and by next summer you will be surprised at the size of your study fund.

## Teaching the Teacher

May I pass along to you some helpful items which I gleaned last summer from teachers who attended my classes? Here they are:

The subject of house-to-house versus studio teaching again came up for discussion in the classes, with teachers about evenly divided as to the merits of each. Put down these additional credits in the column of home lessons:

1. All teachers should require twenty-four hours' notice for home lesson cancellations; consequently children have fewer excuses to skip lessons—those familiar "alibis"—slight colds, not feeling



Conducted Monthly

By  
Guy Maier  
Noted Pianist  
and Music Educator

Correspondents with this Department are requested to limit Letters to One Hundred and Fifty Words.

"I love you so!"  
or  
"Just curve around"  
or

"Let's go to C."

Start with elbow close to body, finger pads touching keytops. As you play, move arm gently upward and outward, reaching the top of the curve at C; then complete elbow circle back to body.

Here's another:



This time the elbow's highest curve is on E-flat which is slightly stressed. Avoid accenting C, which is the weakest tone, even if it is the first beat.

It is surprising how "alive" phrases will emerge if they are treated in this affectionate manner. Try it on any short singing phrase—but be sure to decide just where the elbow curve is highest.

Mrs. J. M. R. (Okla.) made an excellent suggestion about lesson fees. She charges fifteen dollars monthly, which includes one private thirty-minute lesson weekly, one or more supervised fifteen to thirty minute practice periods by an assistant who works upstairs at her home, and one hour class lesson weekly with not more than four persons in the class. How few teachers organize their work as carefully as this! Yet, if they could see J. M. R.'s large, enthusiastic class, they would be tempted to adopt a similar scheme.

J. M. R. also has a unique plan for her student recitals which are held at a large fashionable hotel. The mothers invite other mothers (whose children are of course potential prospects!) and contemporary friends of the performing students to a hotel luncheon, after which the recital takes place. Sometimes as many as two hundred persons attend. It works out admirably, for the mothers consider it part of their social obligations, and the young people are thrilled, the project pays for itself, and the hotel, now favorably disposed, is glad to have the teacher give other programs, gratis, on the hotel premises.

In playing slow, curving phrases, teachers must insist on elbow phrasing, instead of finger articulation. In other words, you must lovingly "put your arm around" the phrase. A simple example is to play this motive slowly and *legato*, as you sing one of the lines—



Note especially the point of light to signify "turning on the switch"—that hairbreadth split second of energy which sets off the flow of electricity from body into piano. After an electric current is turned on, you don't squeeze the switch, do you? Well, it is exactly the same in piano playing: one swift instant of effort, then your elbow floats.

In playing slow, curving phrases, teachers must insist on elbow phrasing, instead of finger articulation. In other words, you must lovingly "put your arm around" the phrase. A simple example is to play this motive slowly and *legato*, as you sing one of the lines—

lighter number chosen for performance  
Not a bad idea!

## Second Piano Parts

Second piano parts to famous pieces not to be copied with those originally written or arranged for piano have become quite the L. R. W. N. Y., an amateur subject in speaking of the art of such obbligato or supporting parts to solo numbers. We find training in playing with others invaluable; 2. they stimulate young and old, to keep up their interest after formal lessons cease; 3. a student knows that a piece may be added to his program in greater parts to study and learn right from the beginning; 4. second piano parts to familiar or newly composed pieces creates new interest in them.

May I say that I do not approve of the obbligato part being given to a student who has already learned the piece? This causes too much time to be used in getting acquainted with the piece. In general, the student should play the added part. No one should be required to do this. It is a quick reader or player who can do it painlessly.

Also I do not believe in the performance of solo music with a separate piano part. I object to the same as to the passing of dancing—there is more liberty with the music than arranging or transcribing. It is a pretentious attempt to do this. Such essays as the *Grieg* would compare to Mozart sonatas I have done tenaciously when they are given to me. These and other music should stimulate youngsters, and not distract them. Practice and discipline—but for performance—never!

## "Easy" Arrangements

To my chagrin, I learned through protests of many teachers that it is a mistake in publishing a piece of music as an "Easy Arrangement." For, we know how excellent or desirable we may be to everybody is prejudiced against children, adults, teachers. So I promise never to do it again! All those Kreisler arrangements will have their "Easy" prefixes removed. . . . Besides, I've found out that they aren't easy!

## Books, Old and New

Through H. MacV. (N. Y.), I learned to love a book which, published a few years ago, I had never seen—*Nathan's One More Spring*. Every musician should know it—short, imaginative, touching, exciting, etc. Why not give it to your students? An inexpensive edition is present?

Here is a typical bit of dialogue:

"You are a sentimental," said M. Rosenberg (a violinist). "Perhaps I am," agreed MacV. "But I am surprised to learn that you are not."

"A musician has as much chance to be a sentimental," replied Mr. Rosenberg, "as a lion has a chance to be a tiger."

(Continued on Page 77)

## The Teacher's Round Table

Mme. Schoen-René, one of the most "resounding" singing teachers of our time, was born in Coblenz. She was a student at the Royal Academy of Berlin. Later she studied with Malibran's famous sister, Pauline Viardot-Garcia. She came to America in 1895, but ill health shattered her ambition to become an opera singer. She then went to London to continue her studies with Manuel Garcia and later returned to the United States. After teaching for some years in Minneapolis, she became a member of the faculty of the Juilliard School of Music in New York City—EDITOR'S NOTE.

DATA ON TONE PRODUCTION is readily obtained, but the singer soon discovers that technical instruction amounts to little unless it is fortified by purity of style. The acquiring of traditional vocal style remains one of the chief problems of vocal mastery. It is rare to encounter a person whose authoritative knowledge of tone production stems back directly to the founder of vocal science; whose traditions of art reach in an unbroken line to the days of Mozart. Such a person is Mme. Anna Schoen-René, one of the world's foremost voice teachers, currently active in the Vocal Department of the Juilliard Graduate School, and private teacher of celebrated singers both here and abroad. Mme. Schoen-René was a pupil of, and for many years associated with, Pauline Viardot-Garcia, one of the greatest authorities on the art of singing; and she specialized in the teaching of male voices with Manuel Garcia. The traditions she absorbed from them go further than upholding the best standards in art (an achievement in itself); actually, they set the standards which subsequently have guided the development of Bel Canto.

The principles of correct singing were first formulated by Don Manuel Garcia (father of Manuel, Pauline, and Maria Malibran), the most distinguished singer of the Romantic Epoch, who later to develop as the foundation of all good singing," says Mme. Schoen-René. "Manuel, the son, did not like to hear it called a 'method'—methods, he said, were patterns for shoemakers to follow! He preferred to think of his work as a scientific education in vocal art—which is exactly what it is.

An Interview with

Mme. Anna E. Schoen-René

Internationally Renowned Teacher—Faculty Member, Juilliard Graduate School of Music, New York

Secured Expressly for THE ETUDE by STEPHEN WEST



Mme. Schoen-René

lutionary to hold that singing originated, not in the throat, but in the breath which serves as the connecting support between the body and the tone. The old Italians relied entirely upon the ear to guide them in tone production. Actually, the ear is still the best diagnostician in detecting tonal values—but the ear alone is not enough! The singer must do more than judge the sound of his tones after he has produced them. He must understand the anatomical principles underlying their production; he must put these principles into practice, learning the sensations they cause.

"The Garcia principles of singing—better, the only correct principles of singing as laid down by Garcia—begin with breath and breath control. The breath must be full, deep, low-taken. It must be supported by the strong abdominal muscles. Practice in correct breathing should precede all exercises in singing. When the breath has been properly taken, the singer must learn to send it in a steady flow against the diaphragm, through the entire respiratory tract, toward the vocal cords, the vibration of which produces tone. Tone is supported by the long column of breath; it 'sits upon it.' If the flow of breath is unsteady, the resulting tone becomes unsteady. Next in importance to the control and support of breath is its resonance. Tone must be resonated entirely from the face—never in the throat, never in the nasal passages. Defective tone and loss of range result from incorrect resonance. The tone should be sent into the cavities bounded by the cheek bones, and allowed to vibrate freely there. Manuel Garcia stressed this freedom of tonal vibration, warning emphatically against constriction in the nose or in the throat.

## Importance of Vocalization

"Extremely vital to tone quality is vocalization. Tone cannot sound forth until it is fixed within the limits of some vowel or consonant. The most primitive cry is formed on some vowel sound. Complete singing requires the constant juxtaposition of vowels and consonants, purely vocalized. The singer should devote great care to the forma-



The eminent dramatic soprano Lilli Lehmann (left) and Mme. Schoen-René

prepared his first operatic performances under Mozart's own guidance. Don Manuel taught his three children, impressing upon them those principles of singing which have come down through succeeding generations as Bel Canto.

Another alert teacher told her solution for students who want to play two selections instead of one at recitals. She permits it only if the pupil plays a short, serious classic in addition to the

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VOICE

## From the Largest Prison in the World

tion of pure vowel sounds. This is especially important to English-speaking singers, because the English language has no pure vowels. English vowels tend to trail off into diphthongs. In ordinary English speech, an A becomes A-EE; an I becomes A-I-EE; an O becomes O-DD. This is fatal to pure vocalization, and consequently to pure tone. The trailing of the vowel into the diphthong causes a scooping, swooping approach which mars clean, precise tonal attack. Italian, German, and French contain pure vowels in ordinary speech, making pure vocalization easier for those who project their tones naturally in terms of those language-sounds. All English-speaking singers must cultivate pure vowels as part of their vocal equipment. Purity of vocalizations is far more than a matter of good diction; it is the secret of pure singing.

"The exercises prescribed by the Garcias (obtainable in their published manuals of *vocalises*, notably 'Une heure d'étude,' by Pauline Viardot-Garcia) were always extremely simple and natural. They explored the voice with the long, sustained tones of the grand *scala*, and perfected evenness in passing from one register of range to another, preparing the way for coloratura technique. The development of florid and flexible technique is advisable for every voice, high or low, male or female; but important as technical mastery is, it must always remain secondary to the production of pure tone itself. *Fiorituri* without a foundation of pure tone (like a roof without a house!) come crashing down to ruin.

### A Phase of General Culture

"One of the chief charms of the Garcias as teachers lay in the fact that their instruction was by no means confined to voice problems. Their culture was so wide that they did not need to 'specialize!' Singing, to them, was simply one very important aspect of that general cultural education without which no one can hope to understand or project art. Mme. Viardot examined all candidates who wished to study with her, and the examination began before they had sung a tone! The moment a candidate entered the room, Mme. Viardot noted his approach, his manners, his attitude, thus judging his bearing, his background. And, in their conversation, she judged his educational and esthetic equipment. Mme. Viardot never refused a gifted pupil because of lack of culture or breeding, but those who revealed the lack were immediately trained in that respect. Mme. Viardot held deportment to be of vital importance in the building of a complete artistic personality, which, of course, it is! She exacted obedience from her pupils and imposed rigorous discipline upon them; never in the sense of dominating them, but in order to help them acquire that *self-discipline* which is the foundation of all art. As part of our singing courses, we were required to read the great classics, to acquaint ourselves with Titian and Rembrandt in the museums, to observe models of acting in the theatres. The goal of her tuition was not 'specialization' in tones and rôles, but the formation of complete self-expression and self-control.

"I often think back to those teachings to-day when, regrettably, a wholly mistaken concept of freedom tends to undermine our regard for discipline, authority, respect, control. Perhaps the most valuable precept we can give our students is that freedom comes only as the result of self-control. Freedom is not a *lack* of discipline; it consists, rather, in controlling one's self so effectively that discipline (Continued on Page 778)

In October, *The Etude* printed a very unusual article by Major John A. Warner, Superintendent of the New York State Police, and also an amateur virtuoso pianist who has been soloist with many famous orchestras. He stated that in his wide experience he had never known of a criminal who had had a real musical training. This corresponds with our own extensive experience. We have heard of only three. Sometime ago, we printed a very dramatic letter from "Major" Hendricks who for some years was head of the excellent band of the San Quentin Prison. We have recently received a letter from T. P. Stanich, the Director of Music of the Prison, from which we print a few extracts extolling the Major's excellent work.

*Music in prisons has been found not only a disciplinary means of real value, but also a channel for the rehabilitation of men after they leave the prison.—Editor's Note*

Some time ago, when I first assumed my duties as Director of Music at San Quentin, the thing which struck me as the most outstanding feature of the musical activities in the institution was the colorful and magnetic personality and capability of the bandmaster, Major Hendricks. So that others, too, may know something of this man who works to help others, and who is almost solely responsible for the growth and success of music in San Quentin, I am going to take you behind the scenes of the musical life of San Quentin, so that you can see what makes this man so successful.

Major Hendricks is above all a musician. He knows and understands music. He is as capable of discussing Bach, Beethoven, and Brahms as he is of carrying his part when the conversation turns to "Jam, Jive, and Jeve." When conducting his "Dance Orchestra," he knows how to hit the "groove" and where and how to place his effects. With equal ability he carries his "Concert Band" through the most difficult overtures and selections from opera. He thoroughly understands both types of music and is extremely adept in extracting the best from each.

For the past nine years, his life has been devoted to the building of a bigger and better band in San Quentin and to the enlargement of the facilities for musical training, from the study of the theory of music in all its complexities to the final technic and polish of artistic instrumentalism.

There is more than mere musical knowledge to this man, Hendricks. As one gets to know him better, one is ever drawn more closely under the spell of his magnetic personality and understanding of men. He is a natural leader; and this, added to experience, is an unbeatable combination. He treats all men alike, and yet there is always about him that indefinable quality which commands respect. He is tolerant, and yet he stands for no foolishness. He cooperates with everyone and has a remarkable gift for quietly making others cooperate, even in the face of overwhelming odds. He is well liked among the men he supervises and is known throughout the institution as "The Major."

In an institution such as San Quentin, with

the innumerable problems and difficulties continually arising in training and helping them all to cooperate, the Major has produced a fine musical organization, has molded it into a group which plays the latest "hit" tunes but the major selections from the works of our great composers.

The Major's every thought is for the improvement of the band. He works unceasingly all that he can to help those who are interested in becoming good musicians. Major continues to conduct the band, and certainly will do until he leaves San Quentin, a richly deserved fuller life in the world outside. But, when he goes, he will long be remembered as the man who did so much for the San Quentin Band, who understood and helped men with sincerity and eagerness that made everyone respect and admire him.

### Do Not Spend Too Long a Time on One Piece

By George Brownson

Select one piece and study it until you have mastered it is the usual advice given. It is good advice, since in perfecting one thing one gains command of principles common to many things. But there is always the exception to the rule, and so to the above citation one can say not study one piece of music too long.

Strange to say, the Chapel Royal is rather an organization of human beings than an edifice for royal worship. In other words, since the twelfth century this institution has been a selected group of singers primarily intended to promote musical perfection in court circles. The present Chapel Royal consists of ten children and six gentlemen; the former wear the ancient garb prescribed for their office:

"one coate and breeches of Scarlet Cloth lined with taffeta, one vest of sky coloured satin and gold lace, laced bands and cuffs, perfumed gloves, silke stockings, a Hatt, and a coate of ordinary red cloath lined with sky coloured shattone to come over their cloaths in case it should rain."

As can be well imagined, they add beauty and dignity to the throne when they parade from St. James to Buckingham each Sunday morning that the King is in residence.

For perhaps eight hundred years, the duty of the Chapel Royal has been attendance on the King's person wherever he should go. Consequently, the members of the Chapel Royal accompanied Henry VIII to the Field of the Cloth of Gold; Henry V to Agincourt; and were participants in countless other historic events. There is but one exception; never do they attend His Majesty to the chapter of The Order of the Garter.

Wherever the Chapel Royal has been housed, whether at St. James under the Tudors or Whitehall under the Stuarts, the coronation ceremonies have never taken place there—which fact most truly emphasizes their status as a personal not a national one. Consequently, they are most prominent at the state Hallowing of the King in the Abbey. And in "the old cheque Book of the Chapel Royal" every detail of the crowning is minutely recorded, as well as the descriptions of confirmations, baptisms and marriages of royalty.

From St. James Chapel Royal the saintly martyr, Charles I, set forth bravely to his execution in Whitehall. There, too, in 1840 Queen Victoria and Prince Albert were married, and in 1850 the

# The Chapel Royal

## Nursery of English Music

By F. B. M. Collier

well and soundly instructed in the arts, and notably in vocal and instrumental music. Because their high calling to Kingship has submerged their claims to individual attainments does not mean that their personal talents are either wanting or neglected. Queen Victoria and Prince Albert were both accomplished musicians, as were and are Queen Victoria's numerous predecessors and successors. Henry VIII regarded music as an important and absorbing duty; he played and sang with intelligent skill, and gave many diligent and understanding hours to the composition of scores. It is absurd to suppose that a monarch can afford to ignore a grounding in the arts. On the contrary, accurate and sympathetic appreciation of music has been an obligatory equipment of all the reigning households in Britain.

Thus armed with the prestige of court patronage, the Chapel Royal progressed steadily into a



Chapel Royal at Windsor Castle

of English music is a fascinating story of vigorous activity and high productiveness. It existed as many centuries before Henry VIII as we are now removed from that eventful age. It came into being less than seven decades after William of Normandy settled in England, just when Stephen ascended the throne, even before the barons' victory over King John, or the heroic deeds of Coeur de Lion. It was and is an appendage of the Royal Person, and is in very truth the human means by which His Majesty is equipped for the furtherance of the great art of music. The Chapel Royal has ever been the monarch's superb opportunity to become a powerful patron of the art, and it was and is as solidly embedded in English habit as the monarchy itself.

It must be remembered, too, that the sovereigns of England and their families have always been firmly established cradle for all musical advancement. From the very earliest days of England the crowned Head made the Chapel his own personal concern. To it must be gathered the choicest talent of the land. As a result, every parish church and cathedral, every parish priest, Canon and Bishop would be spurred to emulate the standards of the Chapel Royal. Cardinal Wolsey at Hampton Court earned the rebuke of his sovereign when he garnered some of the best voices for his own ecclesiastical domain. After all, the King was merely the concrete image of the people's aspiration and will. Hence the Chapel Royal was the nation's cultural fountain of music, and every claim of pomp and place must give way to it. So fully was this preëminence felt that for hundreds of years impressment for service was fully countenanced. And when Wolsey overstepped the bounds by his acquisitiveness, a worthy Dean thus admonished him:

"The King hath plainly shown that your Grace's chapel is better than his, and proved the same by this reason, that if any manner

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of new song should be brought into both the said chapels to be sung ex improviso then the said song should be better and more surely handled by your chapel than by His Majesty's."

That warning was promptly followed by the Dean's order:

"The King hath spoken to me again about the child of your chapel. He is desirous to have it without the procuring of Cornish (Master of the Children) or others."

And to show how effective was the Royal guardianship of Chapel Royal claims upon national talent, the same Dean writes to Wolsey a few days after his first letter to express the King's gratitude "for the Child of the Chapel."

In the long ago, many and diverse were the duties of these courtly singers. They took active part in the miracle plays, the mysteries, and the pageant stagecraft of the age. They played the part of women on the Elizabethan stage. And drama owed a heavy debt to the assistance of the Chapel Royal, and indeed this company of Thespians acquired a specific theatre in Blackfriars, and figured in the records of the inimitable Pepys. Nor has the character of this organization narrowed itself either to provincial or national complexion. The English monarch has always preserved an international outlook, and an intense interest in every square acre of the globe and its advancement. For this reason the Chapel Royal cultivated the impact of continental achievement. It has sought breadth and richness in French centers of harmony, in the musical coterie of Vienna and Naples, in the tuition of Mozart and Mendelssohn, in the punctilious performances of Handel oratorios, and in diligent study and interpretation of all the world's great composers.

Upon all English music the personnel of the King's Royal Choir has exercised a profound influence and lasting direction. In the reign of Elizabeth began the present system of allotting to each chorister a gift of thirty pounds when his voice breaks. By that time these young vocalists have grown deeply attached to their vocation, and by reason of this perquisite are able to attach themselves as apprentices to the resident composer and organist. Under such tuition they are thoroughly equipped for service in other churches, cathedrals and choirs. Thus the finest traditions of ecclesiastical worship are soundly inculcated, and spread far and wide through the realm; indeed, the whole Christian kingdom has a steady stream of experts poured into its melodic organism. This high standard of sound musical practice, encompassing a truly correct judgment, has glorified the national character, and achieved a purity and excellence of performance that is unsurpassed in the world.

The ancient records of the Royal adjunct are crowded with names famous in the selective circles of musical genius. From this cultural nucleus came the great Henry Purcell, the gifted Sir Arthur Sullivan and a whole group of such brilliant English artists as Sir George Thomas Smart, Sir John Goss, Pelham Humfrey, William Byrd, John Bull, Samuel Sebastian Wesley, Thomas Tallis, Thomas Morley, Henry Lawes (famed for his musical setting of Milton's "Masque of Comus"), Dr. John Blow, Orlando Gibbons, Captain Henry Cooke, Thomas Attwood and William Boyce. Such a galaxy of musical genius was nurtured in this genial atmosphere of harmony that a constitutional devotion to music has been a characteristic of the Island for

## Some Hints on Weight Piano Playing

By Olive Lehr

The good results obtained with piano students, who use weight playing, persuade the writer that it will improve the tone to a remarkable degree. But there is so much to remember that the student who depends only on the instructions given at a lesson period has great difficulty in recalling them during his own practice period. For this reason I have prepared a short digest of advice, copies of which are given to my students for reference when working by themselves.

Many people play the piano well, but would play very much better if they would take the brakes off.

Playing should be as natural as walking. We have the weight of our whole body in our feet when we walk, and each foot puts down an equal amount of weight each time we take a step—without, however, digging into the ground. Neither do we worry about lifting our feet high off the floor when we walk, unless we are marching or especially emphasizing a step. Raising the feet high usually results in a stamp or a collapsed equilibrium as we contact the floor.

Weight in piano playing comes from the shoulder, and the amount of weight used is controlled by the elbow. Fingers should be firm enough to hold the weight of the entire arm. If your feet should collapse with every step, think how much time it would take to walk or run anywhere. When you run, note how the body moves in the direction the feet take you. Never, never does it hang back while your feet move forward. Therefore if the fingers want to go places on the keyboard, take the entire arm (guided by a lightly floating elbow) with you, even the body from the waist if you are playing on the upper or lower registers of the piano.

There are several dangers in *pure finger work*. There is the danger of developing a tight forearm. This prevents moving from one key to the other freely and easily; in other words it puts on the brakes. Key bedding is another name for this. Lifting fingers high before playing often results in a hard tone with no resonance. (Compare stamping of feet when walking.) Beginners' fingers are naturally weak, and if the weight of the arm is used to help the finger depress the key, a firmer, more controlled touch results.

Simple down and up touches are good exercises to help us get away from the above faults. If done correctly, they transfer the whole weight of the arm from one finger to the other. Transferring the weight from the shoulder into each finger tip results in all tones being equalized, no matter which finger is being used. Even our old bugbear, the weak fourth finger, has the same power when played in this manner.

There are four basic touches, or strokes, used in playing the piano:

1. The pure finger stroke. The action is from the knuckle joint where it joins the hand. (See above dangers.)

**2. The hand touch.** The action here is from the wrist, which is assisted by a rotary forearm. (Whole arm always follows the direction indicated.) This is good for floating elbow. (Whole arm always follows the direction indicated.) This is good for legato.

**3. Forearm or elbow strokes.** The action here is from the elbow with fingers, wrist, and forearm in one piece." Place fingers on the keys and the entire weight of arm, bounce lightly. This is good for light staccato and for staccato single notes.

**4. Full arm stroke.** The full arm follows the action from the shoulder. If done correctly this touch results in a full tone with good volume, and not a suggestion of banging. This is good for forte passages using single and chords.

The last two touches can be used after the two well known "Preludes in C major and G minor" respectively, both by Rameau. Play the heavy single notes with the full arm and the accompanying chords with the elbow stroke.

In order to clarify the information received, returns were grouped into five divisions:

1. Class A—State Universities, with thirty-four returns from thirty-four states.
2. Class B—State Teachers' Colleges and Normal Training Schools, with forty-eight returns from twenty-nine states.
3. Class C—Agricultural and Technical Schools, giving thirty-one returns from twenty-six states.
4. Class D—Privately endowed Universities and Colleges and Municipal institutions, with twenty-six returns from twenty-one states.
5. Class E—Conservatories and Schools of Music with fifteen returns from eleven states.

United States Navy. One director's qualifications consisted of many years' experience as solo clarinetist both with the Sousa and the Arthur Pryor Bands.

In rating the professional standing of the band directors, the following figures should prove interesting: Twenty-three and three tenths per cent of the directors are either deans or heads of the music departments; fifty-three per cent maintain two separate organizations; eighteen per cent have three bands; one per cent sponsor four bands; and one per cent maintain six bands. Each director answering the band questionnaire was asked to segregate his bands into one or more of three classifications. Twenty-six and five tenths per cent of all those surveyed were designated as marching bands; twenty-seven and five tenths per cent were labeled concert bands; and the remaining forty-six per cent were described as a combination of both marching and concert, with emphasis on marching in the fall and concert work in the winter and spring.

While this procedure is undoubtedly correct to the attaining of fluent first-sight reading ability, yet it is by no means all that can be done towards arriving at this desire and goal. The essence of sight reading consists in being able to find the right note by the mere touch of the fingers, without having to look at the score. "Note-feeling" is the name I use for it when pupils—and the following few exercises practiced regularly, will be found very effective in acquiring this necessary ability.

1. Play single notes an octave apart, and go down the keyboard, without looking at the score. Do this until you can measure the distance accurately and quickly.

2. Take intervals of two octaves in the same way: measure the first octave without seeing the note, then transfer the thumb and fifth finger quickly and measure the second octave and strike the note.

3. Memorize the "feel" of the interval of a fifth, and from this you get your sixth. Think of as "a fifth plus an extra note."

4. In the same way, the interval of a seventh is gotten from the octave: being measured in a Master's Degree; twenty-seven per cent report a Bachelor's Degree; thirty-three and five tenths per cent indicate that they have a Bachelor's Degree, and thirty-eight and seven tenths per cent possess no degree, with the exception of a small number who have State Teacher's Certificates.

5. Such intervals as the tenth or twelfth can be measured by the octave route: "an octave and a third," "an octave and a fifth," and so on.

6. Play all scales, arpeggios and chords without sight of keyboard. Particularly chords with the left hand, and scales with the right hand.

The easier pieces of Handel and Bach give the training in the United States Army and in the sight-reading practice.

# The College Bands of The United States

A Survey by

Walter Duerksen

Director of Bands, University of Wichita  
Wichita, Kansas

colleges quite definitely needs elevation to a higher plane, with proper recognition of the responsibilities and special training required in this field of activity.

### Status of the Band Itself

An examination of the answers to the questionnaires will reveal the following facts: Of the one hundred twenty-two schools maintaining bands, fifty-three per cent maintain two separate organizations; eighteen per cent have three bands; one per cent sponsor four bands; and one per cent maintain six bands. Each director answering the band questionnaire was asked to segregate his bands into one or more of three classifications. Twenty-six and five tenths per cent of all those surveyed were designated as marching bands; twenty-seven and five tenths per cent were labeled concert bands; and the remaining forty-six per cent were described as a combination of both marching and concert, with emphasis on marching in the fall and concert work in the winter and spring. Of the total of one hundred and twenty-two bands, eighty-eight per cent are on a nine months' basis, nine per cent on a part-time basis, and three per cent are subject to call. One of the important revelations was that seventeen and four tenths per cent of these bands hold one rehearsal per week; thirty-five per cent have two weekly; thirty-one and six-tenths per cent have three; twelve and three tenths per cent hold four, and three and seven tenths hold five drills or rehearsals per week.

### A. Table of Band Enrollments by Classes:

Average Enrollment

Class A—State Universities ..... 72

Class B—State Teachers' Colleges and Normal Schools ..... 49.5

Class C—Agricultural and Technical Schools ..... 56.8

Class D—Privately Endowed Universities and Colleges ..... 51

Class E—Music Conservatories ..... 45.9

Average Enrollment for All Bands ..... 50.4

The above table pictures a fairly representative average of band enrollment of the entire United States. The figures are based upon returns from forty-six states with a total of one hundred and twenty-two colleges. Included in this part of the survey are some interesting figures on the number of women participating. Of the total of eleven thousand, nine hundred and twenty-nine band members, nine hundred and sixty were



Major Walter Duerksen

BAND and ORCHESTRA

Edited by William D. Revelli



## What Is a Chromatic?

Q. I have always been taught that chromatics are any semitone progressions such as: B to C in C major, and C to C-sharp in C major. My professor here tells me that the first is not chromatic, and in order to have a chromatic progression one must introduce an accidental. This is quite contrary to what I had previously understood. Which is right?

A. I am playing a student violin concerto written in D major by L. Mendelssohn. The composer of the famous "Concerto in E minor" is Felix Mendelssohn. Felix's name is also Ludwig, but are both concertos written by the same composer? If not, who is L. Mendelssohn? I wish to thank you sincerely in advance for your trouble.—V. D.

A. 1. I believe most musicians would agree with your present teacher that the term "chromatic" is applied only to tones not in the diatonic scale. Perhaps you are confusing this usage with the term "chromatic scale," which of course means a scale of half-steps.

2. Mendelssohn's full name was Jacob Ludwig Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, so it is a case of many names but the same composer.

## About the Various Minor Scales

Q. 1. At what period of history did each form of the minor scale originate?

2. Did the old composers, who used only the harmonic minor, know of the melodic?

3. I have studied with two famous teachers, one of whom says that the melodic minor scale is the only form fit to use, and that the harmonic minor scale is used only by exotic people and barbarians. The other teacher refuses to acknowledge the natural form of the minor scale because it has no leading tone. Are these opinions correct?

4. I use the natural minor as a scaffolding scale to show the exact signature relationship of a relative minor to a major. Has it other uses?

—MRS. F. L. M.

A. 1. The history of the development of scales is very long and complicated, and it is impossible to find any exact date for the appearance of any given scale. About all I can tell you here is that by approximately 1600 our present scale forms were in general use. It is, of course, possible to regard the Ionian mode as our major scale and the Aeolian mode as our minor scale. As such, these scales were used constantly by the people of the Middle Ages and Renaissance (10th to 16th centuries). I would suggest that you read the discussion under the word *mode* in the unabridged edition of "Webster's New International Dictionary" and the article *Scale* in "Grove's Dictionary of Music and Musicians." If you want still more information, consult some fine text, such as "A History of Musical Thought," by Donald A. Ferguson.

2. I do not know whom you mean by "the old composers who used only the harmonic minor." In the works of practically all composers since the time of Bach one can find many examples of all three forms of the minor scale. It is true, however, that the harmonic form (with the minor IV chord and the major V) was used chiefly for the chords of the accompaniment and the melodic form used chiefly for the melodies. Only occasionally does one find the major IV which results from using the melodic form for chord construction. Thus in the

**Ex. 1**

No question will be answered in THE ETUDE unless accompanied by the full name and address of the inquirer. Only initials, or pseudonym given, will be published.

**Ex. 2**

The harmonic form of the minor scale is frequently used even more clearly for melodic line, as in the song *Heimkehr* by Richard Strauss:

**Ex. 3**

There are many different scale forms, some of which your teachers may not find usable for their particular styles of composition, but that is no reason for denying the validity or existence of such scales.

4. Your use of the natural minor scale is perfectly good. But, of course, the true reason for the existence of this scale is a musical one, not pedagogical. Why not also have your students play some melodies or compositions based upon this form of the scale—or better still, have them compose a few? It is always a real test to have the pupils write original work.

## Questions and Answers

A Music Information Service

Conducted By

Karl W. Gehrke

Professor of School Music,  
Oberlin College

Musical Editor, Webster's New  
International Dictionary



## Teaching Piano Classes

Q. I am a pupil in my last year of school. I have played the piano for some events for some years. Recently I was asked by the school authorities to consider teaching piano to all my pupils desiring to study. What do you think as to guide me to follow this kind of work? The pupils are ranging from six to fifteen years of age. I would be very grateful for any advice you may care to give about classes, individual instruction, rhythm bands, and any other information along these lines.—C. B. P.

A. This is rather a large order. You ought to do is to go to some music school for three or four years to study piano, harmony, counterpoint, history of music, and so on. At the same time, take some kind of teacher's course which would prepare for giving both piano and music instruction. If you cannot do this, I advise you to write to the publishers, *The Etude*, asking them to send you a package of material for piano classes, such as the "Oxford Course" or other similar systems. Choose one of these and follow the directions in the teachers' book as well as you can. Divide your pupils into about ten groups, most elementary ones being taught one class and the most advanced similarly in a class by themselves. If a pupil from one group is unable to accord with his progress, and you have a pupil who is so far behind that he cannot keep up with even the most elementary group, either drop him or teach him by himself. On the other hand, if you have a pupil who is so advanced that he is being kept back, move him to the most advanced class, teach him privately,

Cornel Abranyi, Vilma Barga Abranyi, Leo d'Agostini, Isaac Albeniz, Eugen d'Albert, C. B. Alkan, Nikolaus Almásy, F. Altschul, Anderwood, Baronne Angwez, Konrad Ansorge.

Emil Bach, Walter Bache, Carl Baermann, Albert Morris Bagby, Josef Bahnert, Julia Banholzer, Bartlett, Antonio Bazzini, Alice Bechtel, J. Von Beliczay, Franz Bendel, Otto Bendix, Rudolph Bensey, Wilhelm Berger, Robertine Bersen-Gothenberg, Arthur Bird, Adolf Blassmann, Ida Bloch, Charlotte Blume-Ahrens, Anne Bock, Bödinghausen, Bernhard Boekelmann, Valerie Boisier-Gaspardin, Alexander Borodin, Frederick Boskovitz, Marianne Brandt, Louis Brassin, Antonie Bregenzer, Marie Briedenstein, Elisabeth Brendel-Trautmann, Franz Brendel, Emil Brodhag, Hans von Bronsart, Ingeborg Bronsart-Stark, Emma Brückman, Hans von Bülow, Buonamici, Burgmeier (Ricordi), Richard Burmeister, Stefanie Busch, Johann Butka, Chop, Louis Coenen, Louisa Cognetti, Herman Cohen ("Puzzi"), Peter Cornelius, Bernhard Cossman.

Leopold Damrosch, William Humphries Dayas, Descy, Ludwig Dingeldey, D'Ma Sudda-Bey, Wilhelmine Döring, Felix Draeseke, Victoria Drewing, Von Dunkirk.

Paul Eckhoff, Theodore Eisenhauer, Imre Elbert, Pauline Endry, Max Erdmannsdörfer, Pauline Fichtner Erdmannsdörfer, Hermine Esinger.

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Karl Von Lachmund, Marie La Mara (Lipsius), Anna Fleibinger, August Fischer, C. Fischer, L. A. Fischer, Robert Fischof, Margaretha Fokke, Sanjour Forray, Stefanie Forster, Hermine Frank, Robert Freund, Freymond, Vilma von Friedenreich, Arthur Friedheim, H. von Friedländer, W. Fritz, Stephanie von Fryderyck.

Anna Gall, Ferencz Gaal, Sophia Charlotte Gaebler, Cecilia Gaul, Kathi Gaul, Hirschfeld-Gärtner, Paul Geisler, Geyser, Josef Gierl, Gilbert, Henri von Göbbi, Adalbert von Goldschmidt, August Göllerich, Karl Göpfert, Edward Götz, Karl Götze, Bela Gosztonyi, A. W. Gottschalk, Gower, Amalie Greipel-Golz, Margit Groschmid, Emma Grossfurth, L. Grüninger, Alfred Grünfeld, Ilona Grunn, Gugliemi, Luigi Gulli, Guricks, Emma Guttman von Hadeln.

Rudolph Hackert, Arthur Hahn, Ludwig Hartmann, Piroska Harry, Adele Hastings, Harry Hatch, J. Hatton, Sara Magnus Heinze, Heidenreich, Nadine von Helbig (née Princesse Schakowskoy), Hermann, Carl Hermann, Gertrud Herzer, Hippins, Hodoly, Richard Hoffman, Holtze, Howard, Josef Huber, Aline Hundt, Augustus Hyllested, Ivanow-Ippolitoff.

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# Backstage With Great Singers

By  
Frank La Forge



Lily Pons, coloratura soprano and Frank La Forge, composer-pianist, pictured aboard the "Queen Mary."

VEN NOW, WHEN ON TOUR, people still ask me why I play accompaniments from memory, and when I started the practice. They also want to know about Sembrich, Schumann-Heink and others of the great with whom I have worked. To relate only a small part of my experiences with singers would readily fill a book. I have room here, however, for only a few incidents which seem particularly revealing. It is sometimes surprising how a chance remark or happening will influence, even make, a career.

My playing accompaniments without music, for instance, goes back to the time when my sister, Mrs. Ruth La Forge Hall, gave me my first piano lessons. She taught me that anything worth playing at all was worth committing to memory. It became a habit which persisted even after I began to play accompaniments.

At first I hesitated to break a well worn tradition. I recall a concert I played for Ulanowsky, the Russian baritone, in Vienna. He wanted to program some songs by American composers, so I suggested one by Arthur Foote and one by MacDowell. Unable to get the music, I wrote out the songs from memory for him to learn. On the evening of the concert, I placed some sheet music on the piano rack for the sake of appearances, although I did not use it.

#### Shattering Tradition

Some time later, in this country, I had been rehearsing prior to a concert in Carnegie Hall. The singer noticed that I played from memory and asked me to do so at the concert. "It just isn't done," I told her. But, on thinking it over, I decided to follow her suggestion—and have been playing without music ever since.

Some amusing incidents have resulted from this habit, one of which occurred while playing for Mme. Sembrich at a concert in the Berlin Philharmonic. At that time page turners were engaged for all such concerts. The evening of the concert, the man engaged announced himself. When told that I used no music, he probably thought I was jesting, or else he did not understand. Anyway, he followed me onto the stage. When he saw an empty music rack, he almost ran back to the wings. Later, somewhat crestfallen, he told me that he received three marks for such services as he rendered. I gave him that amount and told him to take a holiday and enjoy himself for awhile.

But memory sometimes serves the soloist as well as the accompanist. I was playing a recital once for a well known violoncellist in the large auditorium at Leland Stanford University, Palo Alto, California. We had just begun a number which required over fifteen minutes to perform, when suddenly all the lights went out. A quite audible gasp ran through the house, the audience probably thinking that the number would have to come to an abrupt halt until the lights could be switched on again. But both of us knew the music thoroughly; we kept right on, and the effect on the audience was quite magical. Oddly enough, just as we were concluding, the lights came on again as though we had planned it so. It seemed to be a good piece of showman-

ship, but it was entirely unforeseen on our part.

I toured with Mme. Sembrich for ten years, during which we visited some remote corners of the earth. Experience causes one to become inured to the changes of climate that constant travel entails. I recall my first visit to St. Petersburg, now known as Leningrad, in the dead of winter. The hotel windows in my room were sealed, and I was told they were never opened at night. Since I could not conceive of sleeping in a room without fresh air, against all advice, I opened the little ventilator provided for the usual morning airing-out and went to bed. These openings were only about four inches square. Next morning I awoke with a bad case of tonsilitis. My first concert

with Mme. Sembrich was but four days away; and when the time arrived I was still no better but felt that I must appear. At the last minute, I went directly to the hall without rehearsal and played the concert with a temperature of one hundred and five. After that I left the windows shut.

Among Mme. Sembrich's qualities of greatness were her thorough musicianship, supreme artistry, infallible memory and capacity for hard work. She studied a song inside out, keeping busy even on long train and boat trips. Her whole life centered in her art. When walking in a park, which was her favorite recreation on tour, she always paused to listen to a bird song, trying to fathom the secret of its spontaneity.

Miss Frieda, Mme. Sembrich's personal maid, came to her through an interesting coincidence. Miss Frieda was first employed as wardrobe mistress at the Covent Garden Opera House when Mme. Sembrich was singing there. Mme. Sembrich took a number of trunks with her on her trips and was impressed with the way Miss Frieda kept them in perfect order.

In fact, when Mme. Sembrich left London for another engagement she was unable to locate some things she wanted and, as a last resort, wired Miss Frieda inquiring where to find them. An answer came immediately, directing her to look in a certain compartment of trunk number three. Mme. Sembrich found her things as directed. After that Miss Frieda became Mme. Sembrich's personal maid and was with her until her death, forty-four years later.

#### A Triumph for Mme. Sembrich

Mme. Sembrich never liked to be rushed. In Russia, the police required concert singers to submit the words of all their songs, including encores. This was a measure rigidly enforced, and it caused Mme. Sembrich some irritation since she was not always ready in time.

On one occasion she had completed her program, except for one number, and could not quite make up her mind on that. Since the concert was drawing near, her manager had been importuning her daily to name the song so that he could report to the police; but still she hesitated. One morning, exasperated at his insistence, she exclaimed: "I'll sing what I please."

On the programs handed out at the concert, *What I Please*, by Schumann, was listed in one of the groups. We were careful not to show the printed program

to Mme. Sembrich until after the concert. Next day the music critic of the St. Petersburg Herald, in reviewing the concert, said that one of the favorite numbers was the well known *What I Please* by Schumann. The number Mme. Sembrich really sang was Schumann's *The Sandman*.

One of her unique triumphs was made early in her career during a benefit performance at the Metropolitan Opera House. She was advertised to play a violin concerto by DeBeriot, and it was expected that this would be merely a prima donna's caprice, requiring only the audience's good humored indulgence. She turned it into a peculiar triumph.

After the violin number (Cont. on Page 786)

## CLASSIC AND CONTEMPORARY SELECTIONS

### ARIOSO

Arranged by William Felton

This remarkable *Arioso* by Handel was discovered by Siegfried Ochs in an old Handel manuscript. It was then arranged for voice and was frequently introduced in Handel's oratorio, *Moses in Egypt*. This arrangement for piano is possibly the first ever made of one of Handel's loveliest melodies. It is a fine study for sustained melody playing and is somewhat reminiscent in style of the famous *Largo*. Grade 4.

Andante sostenuto M.M. ♩ = 76

# FINALE FROM HUNGARIAN RHAPSODY No. 8

Of all Liszt's fifteen Rhapsodies, the second is the most popular and the sixth is possibly next. However the fiery finale to the Eighth Rhapsody makes a brilliant piece in itself. It is not for small hands, but it is far easier to learn than the notation would at first indicate. It should not be played with rigidity, but rather with a virile suppleness. Grade 8.

FRANZ LISZT

Presto giocosa assai M.M. = 92

# FASCINATION

VALSE CAPRICE

ERNEST HARRY ADAMS

A charming valse in the fluent style of the French Theodore Lack. It has decided value as a pianistic study. Grade 5.

Tempo di Valse, rubato M.M.  $\text{♩} = 60$

The musical score consists of ten staves of piano music. The first nine staves are in 3/4 time, while the last staff is in 2/4 time. The key signature is consistently one flat throughout. The music is divided into sections with dynamic markings and performance instructions:

- Staff 1:** *mp affrettoso ma leggiero*, *a tempo*, *mf con grazia*.
- Staff 2:** *delicato*, *mp affrettoso*.
- Staff 3:** *f brillante ma leggiero*, *mp affrettoso*.
- Staff 4:** *a tempo*, *mf con grazia*, *mf*.
- Staff 5:** *mp*, *mp - brillante ma leggiero*, *Fine*.
- Staff 6:** *A*, *mf poco agitato*, *delicato*, *appassionato*, *mp*.

The musical score continues on the next page with ten staves of piano music. The key signature remains one flat. The music is divided into sections with dynamic markings and performance instructions:

- Staff 1:** *mp*, *dolce e tranquillo*.
- Staff 2:** *Presto e leggiero*, *Quasi cadenza*.
- Staff 3:** *Valse lento*, *campanello*, *espressivo e grazioso*, *campanello*.
- Staff 4:** *mf*, *mp*.
- Staff 5:** *mp*, *1 sost.*
- Staff 6:** *poco rit.*, *delicato*, *espressivo*, *mp*, *p*.

# MARCH OF THE BUFFOONS

A clowns' dance, with a distinctive note which suggests the modern "streamlined" circus. It is full of jollity and is a good "enlivener" for all pupils. Grade 3.

MARY HILDEBURN PARSONS

Allegro spiritoso M.M.  $\text{d} = 120$

Sheet music for 'March of the Buffoons' by Mary Hildeburn Parsons. The music is in common time, key signature is one flat. It consists of eight staves of piano music with various dynamics and performance instructions like 'ff', 'f', 'mf', 'mp', 'cresc.', 'rit.', 'Ped. simile', 'Moderato pomposo', 'Fine', and 'D.C.'

# AUTUMN SUNLIGHT

DONALD L. MOORE

Valse moderato M.M.  $\text{d} = 50$

Sheet music for 'Autumn Sunlight' by Donald L. Moore. The music is in common time, key signature is one flat. It consists of eight staves of piano music with dynamics like 'mp', 'mf', 'poco rit.', 'L.H.', 'mf', and 'D.C.'

# DIANA

Grade 3½.

Moderately fast M. M. ♩=112

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THE ETUDE

J. IMHOFF

# LITTLE DRUM MAJOR

Grade 3.

With vigor M. M. ♩=92

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NOVEMBER 1941

A. ALFRED TAYLOR

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763

VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL COMPOSITIONS  
GOD GIVE US MEN!

J. G. Holland

Maestoso  
*pesante*

HARVEY GAUL

*flexible*

Men whom the lure of office does not kill,  
Men whom the spoils of office can not buy,  
Men who have honor, men who will not lie,  
Men who can stand before a demagogue  
And  
accelerando  
damn his treach'rous flat - tries  
And damn with-out-  
colla voce  
allargando  
Tempo I.  
wink - ing. God give us men!

Tall men sun - crown'd tall men, Who  
*rallentando — maestoso*

live a - bove the fog.

*col canto*

Harold Simpson

## REST AT EVENTIDE

H. BAYNTON-POWER

*Teneramente*

Voi - ces are

*rit.*

*mf a tempo*

call - ing through the fields of sleep, Call - ing you home - ward where the

long, long shad - ows creep;— Leave all the wild en - dea - vor, Seek - ing and striv - ing ev - er!

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Vain is the sow - ing if but tears you reap. *molto rall.*

*ff allargando*

*dolcissimo*

*pp a tempo*

Pop - pies are blow - ing in those fields so fair, Breath - ing to

*rit.*

wear - y souls a ten - der fra - grance rare;— Leave all your end - less roam - ing!

*colla voce*

*Lento molto espressivo*

Hearts that are fain for hom - ing Here can find love that shall a - bide,

*colla voce*

*mf ad lib.*

And rest at e - ven - tide.

*l.h.*

*mf*

*sonore*

*l.h.*

# HAPPY HOLIDAY

JULIUS KRANZ

Moderato

**VIOLIN**

**PIANO**

# IDYL OF THE FLOWERS

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 CLARENCE KOHLMANN

Registration: Sw. Strings & Flute, 8'  
 Gt. Melodia, Dulciana, Diap.  
 Ped. Bourdon 16'

Trem.

**MANUALS**

**PEDAL**

# ALLEGRETTO SCHERZANDO

SECONDO

JOHANN WILHELM HÄSSLER  
Arranged by Leopold J. Beer

M. M. ♩ = 100

The musical score consists of six staves of piano music. The first two staves are in common time (♩), while the remaining four are in 2/4 time. The key signature is one sharp. The music features various dynamics like *p*, *f*, and *cresc.*, and performance techniques such as grace notes and slurs. The piece concludes with a section labeled "Adagio Tempo I.".

# ALLEGRETTO SCHERZANDO

PRIMO

JOHANN WILHELM HÄSSLER  
Arranged by Leopold J. Beer

M. M. ♩ = 100

The musical score consists of six staves of piano music. The first two staves are in common time (♩), while the remaining four are in 2/4 time. The key signature is one sharp. The music features various dynamics like *p*, *f*, and *cresc.*, and performance techniques such as grace notes and slurs. The piece concludes with a section labeled "Adagio Tempo I.".

## DELIGHTFUL PIECES FOR YOUNG PLAYERS

## THAT TURKEY GOBBLER

Grade 1½.

LOUISE E. STAIRS

Lively M.M. ♩ = 112

There's a big fat tur - key strut - ting 'round the yard, With his tail spread like a fan, For he  
does - n't know Thanks - giv - ing day is near, And he'll soon be in the pan. He calls the o - ther tur - keys  
up to him And scratch - es for them in the hay, He "gob - ble, gob - ble, gob - bles" all day long, I  
won - der what he tries to say. There's a big fat tur - key strut - ting 'round the yard With his tail spread like a  
fan, For he does - n't know Thanks - giv - ing day is near, And he'll soon be in the pan.

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## GOOD NIGHT! SWEET DREAMS

Grade 1½.

Slowly M.M. ♩ = 100

H. P. HOPKINS

I tip - toe in and take a peep To find the kid - dies sound a - sleep; On play room  
floor the toys are still, So let sweet dreams their slum - bers fill. Good night! Sweet dreams.

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THE ETUDE

The Technic of the Month  
Conducted by Guy Maier

## Four-Part Legato

(Czerny Opus 335, No. 5)

"What a relief," I hear you sigh, your *legato* than to *mash* it?

"to be served a slow, *legato* study for a change! We are all kinda fed up with those fast *staccato* ones." Yes, for a few months now we shall avoid studies with dizzy, bouncing sixteenths. December's "Legato Chords" (Opus 335, No. 29) will be followed in January by "Singing Octaves" (Opus 335, No. 37). Why not look them up, learn them, and write your own lessons to see how they will compare with mine? Not a bad idea!

Have you noticed Czerny's own line at the beginning of the study on the opposite page? One word of it has been deleted. (I hope the old master, observing from his Olympian heights, will not disapprove too much.) His words were "firm fingers resting on the keys." "Firm fingers" can't rest! Heaviness, squeezing, or pressure invariably results. Try it and see for yourself. I would like to change the line to "finger-tips resting with feather-lightness on the keys." This seems to express it better.

By *legato* we mean connecting, binding, bridging; but is it necessary to bog ourselves down by pressing fingers into keys which have already been sounded, and over which we have only the release control? Isn't it better for the binding to be accomplished by a light, sensitive finger tip, backed by a delicately poised arm—all without strain or pressure? In other words, isn't it better to *waxt* your *legato*?

This study is so simple and appealing that most readers of THE ETUDE will not need to make a chore of it. Just play it over several times for recreation—but be sure to *waxt* your *legato*!

## Russian Nationalist Composers

(Continued from Page 739)

of "The Mighty Handful" except Cui, Rimsky-Korsakoff (1844-1908) possessed a tremendous faculty for self-discipline united to an enormous capacity for hard work. These traits, combined with a naturally strong constitution, enabled him to attain a continuity of artistic development denied to his shorter lived associates. The son of a retired government official, Rimsky-Korsakoff had the advantage of life in the country, surrounded by peasants, their songs, games and semi-pagan rites. But he was destined for the Navy and actually completed the course at the Naval College at St. Petersburg, where he received his commission as ensign. Although in childhood he exhibited such musical gifts as a keen sense of rhythm and the ability to remember melodies, he was given only a desultory musical training. Even through the years at the Naval College, his attitude toward music was wholly that of an amateur; occasionally he was fired to enthusiasm by works of Glinka and Beethoven, and he studied the piano in a casual fashion. But his meeting with Balakirev changed his viewpoint decisively. Balakirev's ardor caused Rimsky-Korsakoff to take music seriously.

(Continued on Page 776)



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by W. & J. Sloane,  
Fifth Avenue, New York



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## TECHNIC OF THE MONTH

### ETUDE (FOUR-PART LEGATO)

With lesson by Dr. Guy Maier on opposite page.

Grade 3½.

The *legato* in a four-part subject, with the hand very quiet, and the fingers resting on the keys.

Moderato M. M.  $\text{d} = 54-58$

CARL CZERNY, Op. 335, No. 5

## The Technic of the Month

Conducted by Guy Maier

### Four-Part Legato

(Czerny Opus 335, No. 5)

"What a relief," I hear you sigh, "to be served a slow, *legato* study for a change! We are all kinda fed up with those fast *staccato* ones." Yes, for a few months now we shall avoid studies with dizzy, bouncing sixteenths. December's "Legato Chords" (Opus 335, No. 29) will be followed in January by "Singing Octaves" (Opus 335, No. 37). Why not look them up, learn them, and write your own lessons to see how they will compare with mine? Not a bad idea!

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### Russian Nationalist Composers

(Continued from Page 739)

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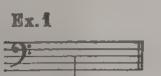
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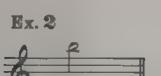
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## New Instrument Opportunities For Piano Teachers

(Continued from Page 736)  
from



'way up to two octaves above



or six octaves. This is effected by the little brown tilting stops or tone selectors. These provide four sections—bass, tenor, alto, and soprano—which in turn may be raised to octaves presenting a selection of tone qualities from the bass horn to high string quality. I soon found it a most intriguing new world of tonal development. The instrument is in no sense a part of the piano, but an adjunct. It cannot possibly injure or affect the piano, any more than could a radio in the same room with the piano. The amplifying box containing the radio tubes, from which the sound is generated, is attractive in appearance. The Solovox costs less to operate

than the average radio and may be repaired at slight expense if ever necessary, by any good radio repair man.

My first inquiry was to discover whether or not I could take a regular piano pupil and teach that pupil upon the piano, along the conventional lines which any educator will concede are most necessary. There is absolutely nothing in the addition of the extra keyboard that interferes in the slightest with the usual manner of teaching piano. Indeed, I found that the Solovox made the best possible means of training a pupil in that most difficult of all piano touches, the *legato*. You see, the production of tone in the Solovox is generated from radio tubes. One note, and only one, can be sounded at a time. That is, you cannot press down two keys and sound two notes. No chords can be played upon the Solovox, any more than you can play chords upon a flute, a trumpet, or a clarinet. The Solovox is therefore purely a solo instrument. The solo is played with the right hand, and the accompaniment is played with the left hand upon the regular piano keyboard. Thus, in order to play the Solovox effectively, a *legato* touch must be mastered. One tone must be immediately displaced by the succeeding tone, without any "gaps." This same training, applied to the regular piano keyboard, produces a superior *legato*.

(Continued on Page 788)

## Russian Nationalist Composers

(Continued from Page 775)

more seriously. Although the latter had so far only produced a few piano pieces, Balakirew insisted that he begin a symphony. And, in spite of his studies at the Naval Academy, he actually completed three movements of this work, interrupted by his graduation and his voyage on the cruiser "Almaz." When his ship was laid up for repairs in England (he managed to complete the missing *andante*, which he forthwith dispatched to Balakirew for criticism). When he was only twenty-one, this symphony, the first by a Nationalist composer and preceded in Russia only by one of Anton Rubinstein's, was given public performance. After this, Rimsky-Korsakoff maintained only a nominal connection with the Navy, from which he ultimately resigned. For years, however, he served as Inspector of Naval Bands. This post was helpful in enlarging his knowledge of wind and brass instruments, and even led him to compose for these groups.

Rimsky-Korsakoff's life now began to assume a three-fold activity. While continuing his work as a composer, he began to teach harmony

and counterpoint at the St. Petersburg Conservatory and at the Free School of Music founded in 1882 by Balakirew and Lomakin. To succeed, he was obliged to learn the fundamentals of musical theory—which Balakirew had done—and, to clarify his results, he wrote a text book on harmony. Some time later, he became interested in Russian folk songs, of which he compiled an important collection, a third outlet for his energies and growing ambition to compose. This began at The Free School of Music, continued at the St. Petersburg Conservatory, and ultimately at the Russian Symphony Concerts.

Belyayev

less frequently conducted in Paris and Brussels. Of these concerts, he gave works by the Nationalists.

As a young composer, Rimsky-Korsakoff at once manifested nationalist sympathies. His symphony was an attempt to sound in workmanship of the individuality. A somewhat inconsequential Serbian Fantasy, followed by a Symphonic Suite.

(Continued on Page 788)

## The Teacher's Round Table

Conducted by Guy Maier

(Continued from Page 744)

"To be a musician," he remarked, "is to fight, every day, for your life."

Mr. Otkar agreed that a musician's life was full of pain and difficulty. "It is also," he added, "filled with the choicer consolations, and with the most glorious rewards. It is true that the rewards do not as a rule occur until some time after death."

"It is a life," said Mr. Rosenberg gloomily, "of toil. The work of a musician is never finished; every day he must start all over again, from the beginning. And in the end what has he got? A few notices which say: 'Mr. Rosenberg was adequate'."

4. Take a hymn or a page of a piece no harder than Grade III, and read it in these ways:

(a) As you count aloud strictly and slowly, play only the first beats of each measure. Count through the measure, and as you do so look ahead, over the bar line and prepare your fingers on the next first beat. If you miss it, don't stop or slow up. Always count inexorably—time, tide and sight playing wait for no one to catch up! Either you take 'em when they come or you lose 'em.

If your counted beats are not slow enough divide them into "one, and, two, and", and so on.

(b) Read it again at the same slow tempo, this time playing first beats as before, and also the entire bass (left hand) of each measure. Don't try to put in any of the right hand except the first beats. If you are not sure of counting steadily, use metronome; and again, if the beat ticks are too fast, let the metronome tick half or even quarter beats. And never look at the keyboard, no matter how slowly you are forced to play.

(c) Now walk around the room, stretch, yawn, look out of the window, or gossip with a friend over the telephone (the friend will love it!). Then come back, and read the whole piece, putting in everything "as is", but still counting or ticking at the same speed as before.

(d) Now take another easy piece, and without looking (close those eyes!) point blindly to any measure. Now open your eyes, look at it a few seconds (without playing), then close your eyes and play as much of the measure as you can. Do this several times, all with measures chosen blindly. Don't you dare to cheat! Quite a stunt, isn't it?

(e) After all this, put yourself through (a), (b), and (c) with another hymn or piece, and then stop, until your next half-hour period later in the day.

I repeat, you must do this regularly, conscientiously, over a long period if you want to make progress. Don't try music above Grade III for a long time. Much of the music in The Etude is admirably suited to your purpose. Your teacher will make you toe the mark, give you additional reading material, and help you with other sight reading props and tests.

For added interest she will assign and play with you duets, ensemble music, or song accompaniments. If you follow this routine, I don't see how you can fail to develop accuracy, fluency and pleasure in sight reading.



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## The Tradition of Fine Singing

(Continued from Page 746)

from the outside world becomes less necessary. Self-discipline makes a great career for the individual singer!

### Voice Culture for Composers

"Voice study is as valuable for composers as for singers. The unsurpassed melodic line of Bach and Mozart results from their familiarity with the possibilities of the human voice. Many modern songs, alas, reveal that their composers lack such knowledge. Their skipping, shifting intervals cannot be encompassed in a pure vocal line; and consequently they remain worthless as practical music. The composer who would write for the voice must understand its scope, its uses, its limitations. Liszt once sent a highly interesting young man to Mme. Viariot for her advice. Liszt believed the youth to be 'full of music,' but was undecided whether to encourage him in a pianist's career. Mme. Viariot was delighted with the young man's gifts, and employed him as an accompanist and later as a coach to her pupils, in Baden-Baden. In this way, she came to hear some of his own compositions. His name was Johannes Brahms! Undoubtedly, this early acquaintance with the principles of vocal technique helped shape the exquisite line of Brahms' songs. Our own young composers would do well to follow his example. Then, perhaps,

## Russian Nationalist Composers

(Continued from Page 776)

sian Themes in A minor, Op. 31. The latter was based on models by Glinka and Balakirew. Here Rimsky-Korsakoff displayed at once harmonic devices, which became a feature in his later style, as well as a specific gift for orchestral treatment. A symphonic poem, *Sadko* (the first in this form by a Russian composer, the music of which was utilized twenty-eight years later in an opera on the same subject), was based on a national legend, and showed his faculty for the invention of picturesque and descriptive music, along with some unconscious reminiscences of Balakirew's *Tamar*. A "Symphony No. 2, Op. 9" ("Antar"), and in reality a suite, followed Glinka's example in using Arabian melodies for themes, and marked Rimsky-Korsakoff's advance in technical control and in attaining a characteristically Eastern atmosphere, as well as a growing skill in manipulating orchestral color. Balakirew had suggested to him the subject of *Sadko*, while Borodin called his attention to the possibili-

ties for musical treatment inherent in Baron Brameous' tale, "Antar," for which he and Dargomyzhsky furnished the Arabian melodies upon which the work is largely constructed.

After the death of Dargomyzhsky, Rimsky-Korsakoff was chosen to orchestrate the former's masterpiece, the opera "The Stone Guest," when Cui had completed the composition. This was the first instance in which Rimsky-Korsakoff placed his signal abilities as an orchestrator at the service of his colleagues. Later, he labored along similar lines in behalf of Borodin and Mussorgsky, as well as helping to revise the orchestration of works by Glinka.

Perhaps the companionship of Mussorgsky directed Rimsky-Korsakoff toward the field of opera, for a few years after the composition of "Boris Godunoff" he completed his only full length opera on a Russian historical episode, "The Maid of Pskov," after the drama by Mey, in which *Ivan the Terrible* was the com-

## Voice Problems and Breath Technic

(Continued from Page 76)

No question will be answered in THE ETUDE unless accompanied by the full name and address of the inquirer. Only initials, or pseudonym given, will be published.

**Does Trombone Playing Harm the Singing Voice?**  
Q. In the small town where I used to live there was no vocal teacher. But, now that I have moved to a city, I believe that I can get somewhere if it is not too late to start. Is it really too late to think about a professional career?

2. I am considering stopping choir work until I can sing without this disappointing break. Would this benefit me as I could practice more and sing without forcing or straining?—S. A. S.

3. Would playing a trombone or any wind instrument be harmful to the voice? Any advice would be greatly appreciated.—W. J. B.

### The True Lungs

The acquisition of an easy breathing is another result of correct singing. In the case of legato, however, breath technique is a whole story. The singer must have a clear conception of what breathing really is! It should never be confused with pantomime. Proper singing involves the matching of tone with the next, in a smooth scoop—which is disadvantageous to defective voices—in passages where it is specifically indicated in the score. In just my singing, the successive notes are clearly separated, with no mere scooping, but closely joined to other. In my own work—it will speak solely in terms of my sensations and not as a matter of others—I approach legato with the idea that I am singing the same note throughout the scale. It is to say, as far as my feelings concerned, there can be no scooping or merging. Retaining this sameness, then, I project my mentally and technically to the perfect pitch levels indicated.

"Whiteness" of tone is largely a matter of resonance. It is largely caused by insufficient cover for tone and can be readily rectified by providing such cover. A simple way to do this is to hit, or arch, the palate. Imagine that you are going to bite into a large, round something large and round, and feel what happens at the back of your mouth. At once you are conscious of an arching, a lifting. Precisely this movement, this sensation, is what the singer needs to cover his tones and give them "whiteness."

The Editor of Voice Questions Answered regrets that he knows little or nothing about whistling as a fine art. Like every man he has whistled all his life; but the result has not been either artistic or beautiful. Just pleasant to the whistler, but painful to the hearer. Please read our answer to the trombone player in this issue of THE ETUDE.

2. We offer the following information: Whistling School, Agnes Woodward, Director, 1000 Beaux Arts Building, Los Angeles, California. There are also some professional whistlers, namely: Fay Epperson, 400 Fine Arts Building, Chicago, Ill.; Leslie Groff, 2028 Madison St., Chicago, Ill.; Marie D. Pennerette, 1840 Paloma St., Pasadena, Calif. There is also a treatise upon the development of this accomplishment, entitled "Whistling as an Art," by Agnes Woodward. Published at the price of \$2.25. The Publishers of THE ETUDE will obtain this book for you, if you so desire.

Self Training, Is it Possible?  
Q. I am a girl eighteen years of age, five feet tall. My teacher says I am a lyric soprano for I sing from A below Middle C to D above High C. I think I am dramatic soprano, for I have much power of voice and my friends agree with me. I have lost my job and I have no money for lessons. Could you tell me how I can teach myself?—J. A. T.

Can One Improve the High Tones by Increasing Diaphragmatic Pressure?  
Q. I am a tenor, twenty-three years old, studying with a prominent teacher, who says I am working along the right lines. My range is from small Middle C to G, first space above the staff, treble clef. I hesitate to call either F or G in my range, because I frequently break upon them. When I call upon my diaphragm, for extra support for these notes, I become tense which results

(Continued on Page 784)

## VOICE QUESTIONS

Answered by DR. NICHOLAS DOUTY

In a break. If I forget about the support, I feel tense in my throat and again my voice breaks. When I sing in the High School Glee Club I sang all the high notes in a falsetto voice, I know this was wrong.

2. I am considering stopping choir work until I can sing without this disappointing break. Would this benefit me as I could practice more and sing without forcing or straining?—S. A. S.

3. Would playing a trombone or any wind instrument be harmful to the voice? Any advice would be greatly appreciated.—W. J. B.

### A. Twenty-one is rather late to start training for a professional career. However, playing the trombone has helped your musicianship, so that you do not really start from scratch. Our advice would be to study at the harder in order to make up for lost time.

### 1. Playing the trombone is very good to

help the breathing muscles, and to increase the size of the chest and the resiliency of the lungs. It is a very good physical exercise and tends to make a man vigorous and healthy. Please remember that the singer must be careful not to use as much breath force as the trombone player, for fear of injuring his vocal cords. Use only as much pressure of breath as your vocal cords can comfortably resist, or the whole structure of the larynx will shake and produce a very ugly trembling tone. Lips, tongue and throat muscles, both internal and external, must not be stiffened during singing. If you can play the trombone without doing any of these things, we can see no reason why you should not continue to do so. But watch yourself carefully.

### The Art of Whistling

Q. Recently I heard, at a church recital, a Maria given by a whistler, with organ accompaniment. The rendition was beautiful and impressed me that I determined to find out to what extent the art or science of whistling has been developed and used.

3. I am

searching for information in the library

for several books or bird calls, but these have not been of much use, since they are concerned with the actual practice. A music teacher told me that the principles were directly opposite to those used in singing, and that whistling could not be good for the voice if done too much. Could you enlighten me upon this subject and tell me where I could get the information?—R. G. S.

### Should She Stop Singing For Three-Quarters Of A Year?

Q. Can it do any permanent harm to refrain from singing for nine months? Under very peculiar circumstances, I have not sung for six months and may not sing for three months longer. However, if it will injure my voice, I shall take steps to change the circumstances.—D. W.

### A. We cannot see how a pause of the

length of time you specify could perma-

nently injure your voice. At the end of this

period, you will find yourself very much out

of practice. It will take you some time to

get both your technic and your control back

and we would not advise it unless you find it absolutely necessary.

### Self Training, Is it Possible?

Q. I am a girl eighteen years of age, five feet tall. My teacher says I am a lyric soprano for I sing from A below Middle C to D above High C. I think I am dramatic soprano, for I have much power of voice and my friends agree with me. I have lost my job and I have no money for lessons. Could you tell me how I can teach myself?—J. A. T.

### The actual conduct of the pro-

gram

hour, the nature and sequence of exer-

cises, is too individual a matter

anyone but the accredited teacher

can offer advice upon. For myself I

## New Delights for Your Record Library

(Continued from Page 740)

orchestra) in music of this kind; tonal purity and fluid expression are better attained, and the spirit of the music is more gracious.

Tchaikovsky—Fourth Symphony (in F minor, Op. 36;) Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra, directed by Dmitri Mitropoulos. Columbia Set M-468.

There is fine clarity and brightness to the reproduction here. Mitropoulos, from the technical standpoint, gives one of the best defined readings of this score on records, but one questions his insight into the emotional qualities of the music. Returning to Koussevitzky's earlier set, we realize how much more Tchaikovsky's Slavic outbursts mean to the noted Russian conductor than to Mitropoulos.

Enesco—Roumanian Rhapsody No. 1 (3 sides); and Reznicek's Donna Diana Overture (1 side); Chicago Symphony Orchestra, directed by Frederick Stock. Columbia Set X-203.

The tonal resonance here is overfull; but the definition is, on the whole, good. This set is welcome if for no other reason than for the inclusion of the delightfully gay overture by Reznicek, which might be called a companion piece to Smetana's Overture to the "Bartered Bride."

Wagner—Prelude to Die Meistersinger; the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, directed by Fritz Reiner. Columbia Disc 11580-D.

Here we have an impressive recording of a performance that lacks continuity, for Reiner is more concerned with detail than with flow of line.

Bach, W. F.—Sonata in C minor; William Primrose (viola) and Yella Pessl (harpsichord). Victor Album M-807.

Miss Pessl discovered this sonata in the Library of Congress. It is not a great work, although it is undeniably a grateful one for the violist, affording him ample opportunities for technical display. Miss Pessl proves herself a brilliant partner in the ensemble.

Bach, J. S.—Italian Concerto in F major; Artur Schnabel (piano). Victor Album M-806.

Although the purists decry the performance of Bach's clavier music on the piano, the music loving public would seem to endorse it. There is, of course, much to be said in defense of both instruments. Many will contend, and not unjustly too, that the harpsichord allows Landowska to attain a greater flexibility in the outer movements of this work than recorded. Mozart—Sonata No. 3 in F, K. 497 (for four hands); Jeans and Mercedes Sanromá. Victor Album M-809. The mood of the music is close to the composer's famous string quintets. It is cleanly played here by the Sanromás (husband and wife).

## Voice Problems and Breath Technic

(Continued from Page 778)

Corelli (arr. Leonard) — La Folia; Joseph Szigeti (violin) and Andor Parkas (piano). Columbia Set X-202.

Here is a violin classic given a suave and technically finished performance by one of the best violinists before the public. The tune, called La Folia, upon which Corelli based his variations, dates from the 15th century; it is a melody which one encounters in other composers—Vivaldi, Scarlatti, Bach (in his "Peasant Cantata"), Liszt (in his Spanish Rhapsody), and Rachmaninoff, to name but a few.

Beethoven—Quartet No. 7, in F major ("Rasoumovsky" No. 1), Op. 59, No. 1; Coolidge Quartet. Victor Album M-804.

Technically, the playing here is above approach, but emotionally it leaves much to be desired. The failure of the players to plumb the full emotional depths here returns us to the older Roth Quartet, which, although not the fullest realization of the work, still remains emotionally the most satisfying to date.

Rossini—To a Doctor of My Importance from The Barber of Seville; and Mozart—La Vendetta from the Marriage of Figaro; Salvatore Acciari (basso-buffo). Columbia Disc 71193-D.

Baccolini has been most successful in his portrayal of the part of Dr. Bartolo in both these operas, and here his unusual gifts for characterization are fully projected.

Bizet—Carmen, Habanera; and Thomas—Mignon, Connais-tu le pays?; Risé Stevens (mezzo-soprano). Columbia Disc 71192-D.

A singularly gifted American singer makes her record debut here, showing she has a feeling for poetic lines as well as for music.

Smoky Mountain Ballads; performed by musicians of the locality. Victor Set P-79. A famous folk authority, John Lomax, collected these folk songs for Victor. This is one of the most interesting bits of Americana that has come to records.

Recommended: Two Sixteenth Century Dutch Tunes (arr. Kindler); National Symphony Orchestra, directed by Hans Kindler. Victor Disc 18071. Music of strength and nobility effectively arranged and performed. Chopin-Rondo for Two Pianos in C major, Op. 73; Ethel Bartlett and Rae Robertson (duo-pianists). Columbia Disc 71190-D. Finesse and precision mark this performance which is well recorded. Mozart—Sonata No. 3 in F, K. 497 (for four hands); Jeans and Mercedes Sanromá. Victor Album M-809. The mood of the music is close to the composer's famous string quintets. It is cleanly played here by the Sanromás (husband and wife).

At one performance, he gave the rôle to a dramatic soprano of typical

gives it resonance. EE, as a means of "warming up," tends to become sharp, while AH may slip the tone into the throat—where it should never be! When the voice is warmed to pliancy, all the vowel sounds should be sung. Once, when I had the pleasure of singing Susanna in "The Marriage of Figaro" during the Salzburg Festival, under the direction of Bruno Walter, I went to the opera house before the rehearsal was due to begin, and sang some scales on OO, to warm up suddenly, out of the dark of the theatre, a man's voice called: "What are you doing there?" It was Bruno Walter. I said I was just warming up on my favorite vowel and he replied that it was the best thing one could do! On Walter's endorsement, if not on my own, I suggest this to others.

### Art in Interpretation

The interpretive aspects of singing, as I have already said, depend upon the individual talent and taste of the singer. Both these can be greatly broadened by musicianly studies and by experience. The singer's vocal life is not as long as that of the instrumentalist. Cultivation of the voice cannot begin so early as instrumental studies and the voice usually does not last so long in prime condition.

It is not uncommon to attend concerts by pianists or violinists who have reached the age of seventy.

Because of this time element, then, many singers tend to concentrate on vocal work to the exclusion of general musicianship and general art culture. This is, to my mind, a profound mistake. The professional singer dares not confine his work to tones alone; he interprets art. Therefore, the more of art he can encompass, the richer his performance. I am grateful to-day for my preliminary studies as a pianist. Not only can I learn my own parts and play my own accompaniments, but I am afforded an entrance into the fullness of great music by playing Bach, Beethoven, and Brahms for my own enrichment. Also, I was lucky enough to have had a rather versatile training. At Dresden, I worked under Fritz Busch, who is not only a master conductor, but also a master musician. During my second year under him, I learned thirteen major rôles. In exploring the score of "Don Carlos," for example, Busch discovered that the rôle of Elisabeth was meant to portray a seventeen-year-old girl. Now, traditional operatic practice is to give this rôle to a dramatic soprano. What Busch did was to vary the casts.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS, ONE OF FINE ARTS has ordered a number of thousand dollars worth of pipes from the Aeolian-Skinner Organ Company, to be installed in the new hundred thousand dollar Music Building now under construction. Dr. Paul B. Physick professor at the University, responsible for several innovations in the principles of acoustics and organ pipe specifications for the organ, built an auxiliary console to be set up in the terrace of the University Main Building a block away. Electrical power to the auxiliary console must be supplied by pipes in the organ loft, and the pipes will be carried back to the terrace by a public address system.

(Continued on Page 780)

"dramatic soprano" physique, and the next, he gave the part to me. The audience reaction was interesting; my more lyric interpretation was liked quite as well as the more dramatic one. After this, I was allowed to sing Leonora in "Il Trovatore," Amalia in "Simon Boccanegra," and other big "dramatic" parts. Then, when I went to Vienna, where the more traditional methods prevailed, I was used chiefly for bass and for lyric and soubrette parts. All, I have sung sixty-four rôles in my ten years on the stage, and the variety of the work exercised to me has helped me greatly, not only in "learning rôles," but achieving a greater perspective of the art of opera as a whole that could ever be achieved by specialization."

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ORGAN AND CHOIR QUESTIONS

Answered by HENRY S. FRY, Mus. Doc.

Ex-Dean of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the A. G. O.

Q. I read the article appearing in The Etude concerning electrical amplifying of church organs and transmitting of organ tones to the choir. Would be pleased if you would advise me name of company manufacturing such amplifier.—W.C.B.

A. We are sending you, by mail, information as to amplification.

Q. Please give a specification for an organ for a church seating about 1,500 to 1,550, to cost about \$10,000. Will the organ at that cost, be large enough? Enclosed find a rough sketch of the church.—F.D.

Q. Should the tremolo be used for the playing of hymns? In our church, the tremolo seems to make the swell loud enough without the use of the Open Diapason. Somehow or other the tremolo seems to throw the tone out. Don't you think it is possible to play too loudly for congregational singing? Should all the bass notes in hymns be played on the pedals? Do you think the registration should change on different verses? Please give me the names of collections by the great masters, attractive to the small town people who have no musical background. What would you advise a beginner to do with his best works after he has had them corrected with the help of a very good theory teacher? Will publishers give constructive criticism?—J.E.F.

A. Your sketch indicates quite a large church, and we have drawn specifications accordingly. The price of the instrument will depend on the builder selected, location of instrument, if it is to be divided, number of expression boxes (we suggest three—Swell, Choir and Great), amount of case work and so forth. We suggest that you submit the specification with the necessary information to the builders whom you wish to consider, asking for price. Our suggestion is as follows:

GREAT ORGAN

Contra Gemshorn ... 16' 32 Pipes

Open Diapason ... 8' 32 Notes

Harmonic Flute ... 8' 32 Notes

Gemshorn ... 8' 32 Notes

Flute Harmonique ... 4' 32 Notes

Gemshorn ... 4' 32 Notes

Octave ... 4' 32 Notes

Twelfth ... 2 1/2' 32 Notes

Fifteenth ... 2' 32 Notes

Mixture ... III Ranks 32 Notes

Trumpet (from Choir) ... 8' 32 Notes

Contra Gemshorn ... 16' 32 Notes

Open Diapason ... 8' 32 Notes

Harmonic Flute ... 8' 32 Notes

Gemshorn ... 8' 32 Notes

Flute Harmonique ... 4' 32 Notes

Gemshorn ... 4' 32 Notes

Octave ... 4' 32 Notes

Twelfth ... 2 1/2' 32 Notes

Fifteenth ... 2' 32 Notes

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Twelfth ... 2 1/2' 32 Notes

Fifteenth ... 2' 32 Notes

Mixture ... III Ranks 32 Notes

Trumpet (from Choir) ... 8' 32 Notes

Contra Gemshorn ... 16' 32 Notes

Open Diapason ... 8' 32 Notes

## The Revival of the Ancient Recorder

(Continued from Page 732)

characteristic. Earlier Michael Praetorius tells us of twenty-one recorders belonging to one recorder band, and Charles Burney even found cases which held thirty to forty recorders each, and which took eight men to lift. The owners of such instruments were accustomed to march their local merchants to the exchange daily, to the music of their recorders!

Pilgrims, wherever they journeyed, entertained themselves and their audiences playing on recorders that were fashioned like walking canes. These were called "Pilgrims' Staves," and may be seen in New York city's Metropolitan Museum in the Crosby Brown Collection of musical instruments.

All of Miss Lehrer's instruments are hand made. She designs them herself, and has the design reproduced by a highly skilled craftsman. Recently she has designed two varying types of recorders; one, which is inexpensive enough to come within reach of everyone's pocketbook, has found its way into many modern homes; and the other, more highly sensitized, is delicately and carefully constructed to fit the needs of concert artists in every detail. This one, she explained to me, is the only one of this type on the market comparable to the well known Dolmetsch instruments.

Visitors to the recent New York World's Fair, who were fortunate enough to witness the charming Shakespearian productions directed by Margaret Webster at the Globe Theatre there, will recall Miss Lehrer's delightful recorder numbers which were such valuable additions to the programs.

For the past six years, Miss Lehrer has been associated with the Greenwich House Music School, as director of the department of old instruments. And she has also been engaged for the Juilliard School of Music summer session for two consecutive seasons.

## Music Versus Professionalism

(Continued from Page 734)

happens is that the mechanics of our educational system remove the self-expression of music-making from the educational field! I cannot accept such a system as educationally beneficial. It is a profound mistake to make a youngster use his precious play time to work at the drudgery of elementary music practice, without any reward except the knowledge that it is going to do him good later. It seems to me that the larger purpose of education would be better served by allowing as much academic credit for music practice and music lessons as is given for the solution of problems in arithmetic. If a child could charge up his daily hour of practice to school work, instead of taking it from his limited period of fun, he would be far more eager to continue his lessons—indeed, there would be no reason whatever for

dropping them. And the longer he lives with music, the richer his inner life becomes.

In the past, music and musicians were supported exclusively by aristocratic patronage. I look forward to the day when music will be endowed by and for amateurs. Already we are shaping our national economy toward greater leisure, and progress is being made in the richer use of leisure. I look forward to the time when gainful employment can be accomplished in five hours a day, leaving more time for personal living. Then men will come home from business jobs and find time and energy enough to re-create themselves by singing, playing, composing. Moussorgsky and Rimsky-Korsakoff expressed themselves musically while engaged in distinctly non-musical professional work. Much of the charm of their

music results from the completely personal quality of their expression. I have a theory that the finest music has always been amateur in the sense that it represents the inner compulsion to say something, rather than a professional need to get something said. There is a vast difference between the two. The professional writes for a public, for critics, for a purpose. The amateur writes because he can't help it. Schubert wrote in the amateur sense; certainly he didn't write for a public—he didn't have one! The fact that he was endowed with musical genius and melodic facility does not alter the purpose of his writing. That was to express himself; not to explore market needs and then await the result in terms of critical evaluation and public acclaim. And that goal of self-expression, regardless of result, can be attained by anyone who cares enough about music to devote himself to it. That sort of amateurism is going to do more for music than one hundred extra concerts. Men, and the nations they build, need to say what they think and feel simply for the joy of saying it. That is why the widespread growth of personal participation in music is one of the most encouraging things we can find in these stressful times, when man needs to bulwark himself with truths and beauties that are eternal."

"I am also very much interested in finding new compositions for the instrument by moderns," Miss Lehrer said. "But there are very few contemporary composers who have taken time to write for such a modest little instrument. Lawrence Powell and Paul Hindemith are among these few whose compositions are well known. It is surprising that there are so few, since the spirit we are striving to create in our new schools and camps is in reality a similar one to that which prevailed in all such simple or spontaneous environments as those which gave birth to the recorder."

Miss Lehrer gave a series of lecture recitals during the past season. These took place at the Center for Old Music, and in them she introduced many of the manuscripts which she has arranged, as well as some of the best examples of modern composition.

Visitors to the recent New York World's Fair, who were fortunate enough to witness the charming Shakespearian productions directed by Margaret Webster at the Globe Theatre there, will recall Miss Lehrer's delightful recorder numbers which were such valuable additions to the programs.

One of this young musician's most valuable contributions, however, is the editing and arranging of the lovely music already composed for the recorder, for the use of her pupils and also the music-loving public.

## World of Music

(Continued from Page 780)

**MICHEL CHERNIAVSKY**, remembered in this country as the violoncellist of the Cherniavsky Trio, is in England, devoting his talents to the British troops as well as civilians. He has been living in Oxford since losing his London home and repertoire of music in air raids. According to an Oxford newspaper, Mr. Cherniavsky has discovered that far from wanting popular music exclusively, the H.M. Forces appreciate classical music. He says: "I find that just as in times of disaster there is a return to religion, so these people need solace for the spirit through art. It may have been true in the beginning that they wanted only the lighter type of music, but I have played a great deal of classical music to them and they have listened spellbound."

**THE STUDENTS OPERA COMPANY** of Philadelphia, Diana Irvine director, will continue to provide experience through pre-professional performances for coming opera singers. Next season, Konrad Neuger, the Metropolitan chorus master, will act as musical director.

**WILHELM KIENZL**, noted Austrian composer, conductor, pianist and music critic, died in Vienna on October 3rd, at the age of 84. He was a friend of Wagner and a pupil of Liszt. His opera, "Der Kuhreigen" was produced in New York and Chicago in 1913.

## Old Violins and Old Methods

(Continued from Page 751)

sound like Mr. Kreisler or Mr. Etz much too soon and, failing, to say: "My violin isn't any good"; remember that a five dollar fiddle can be made to obey the hand of an artist. But to go on with "the shair

"You must attentively and assiduously persevere in the practice of this embellishment, and begin first with an open string. If you are once able to make a shake with the first finger, you will with the greater facility acquire it with the second, the third, and the fourth, or little finger, with which you must practice in a particular manner, as more feeble than the rest of its brethren. I shall... propose no other studies to your application; what I have already said is more than sufficient if you are equal to my wishes for your attainment. I hope you will seriously inform me whether I have explained myself clearly thus far, that you accept of my respects and will likewise beg of you to present my Prioress, to Signora Teresa and Signora Chiara, for all whom I have a sincere regard, and leave me be, with great affect."

"Your obedient and most humble servant,

"Giuseppe Tomasini"

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 AND  
 ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SPECIAL NOTICES**

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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NOVEMBER, 1941

## VIOLIN QUESTIONS

Answered by ROBERT BRAINE

No questions will be answered in THE ETUDE unless accompanied by the full name and address of the inquirer. Only initials, or pseudonym given, will be published.

### About Hand "Developers"

M. W.—I have always believed that it is a good idea to "fight shy" of all kinds of gadgets like "hand-grips", "wrist developers", "finger stretchers", and other devices, designed to strengthen the fingers and wrists. My experience is that such appliances do more harm than good, unless they are used with the greatest care. Their purpose is, of course, to strengthen the fingers and to develop their elasticity, and speed, but they must be used with caution. I think that constant practice on the violin, using first rate technical exercises, of which there is a vast number, is all that is necessary for the proper development of the fingers and wrists.

In the first place the age of sixteen is a little late to begin, with the hope of becoming a virtuoso. Most of the great violinists began between six and ten, and very, very few as late as sixteen, although I have known of students who became excellent players, after beginning at this age.

You must remember, however, that so much "depends on the boy"—his physical make-up, his talent, or you might call it "genius," whether he has the faculty of absolute pitch, whether he has the gift of musical memory in a high degree—in short whether he has the God-given talent to become a great violinist.

A boy who seeks a reliable answer to this question should put himself under the tutelage of a great violinist, preferably one who has a melancholy experience with stretching exercises. I taught him for several years, and he then moved to another city, where he studied under a well known teacher in a prominent conservatory. I lost track of him for a year or two, and then happened to meet him on the street in the city where he was studying. I asked him how he was getting along, and was surprised to hear that he had had to give up violin playing for about nine months. He informed me that his teacher had put him to work on stretching exercises, on tenths, and even greater intervals, two hours a day. He said that this work had been too much for him, as his fingers had become cramped and stiffened to such a degree that it had ruined his technique. His teacher then advised him to take a long rest from his violin playing, in the hope that the rest would bring back the elasticity of the muscles of the fingers. I did not see this pupil until several years later, when he told me that he had become discouraged, and had given up violin playing altogether.

A certain amount of practice on "stretch" exercises is necessary in violin study, but it can easily be overdone if pushed to extremes. A certain amount is good, but two hours a day is too much of a "stretch", and is likely to spell disaster.

To be a Symphony Orchestra Player G. M. L.—A good symphony violinist must have an advanced technic, wide musical knowledge, great experience in the realm of music, and talent of a high order. It will be well for him if he has "absolute pitch" and the peculiar faculty of following the beat of the director's baton. I would advise you to enter a good conservatory of music, one which has a student's orchestra class in which you can play, and study with a good private violin teacher. As you progress, your teacher will advise you whether you can "make the grade," and give you many hints to further your progress in your symphony work.

Again the Klotz Family A. B. C.—The Klotz family, with its many branches, was one of the most noted of the violin making families of Germany. Although Steiner is considered the greatest violin maker of Germany, the Klotz family made some excellent instruments. In biographical works on German makers, under the name Klotz, I find the following: E. Klotz; G. Klotz; J. C. Klotz; J. Klotz; J. Klotz, Sr.; J. Klotz, Jr.; three makers, each named M. Klotz; and others of this numerous violin-making family.

Matthias Klotz was the founder of one of the branches of this famous family of the Mittenwald (Mid-forest) having been there from the end of the 17th Century. Through the labors of Matthias Klotz, the Mittenwald became a kind of a German Cremona. His violins are very good, but some better ones, perhaps the best ones made by the Klotz family, were made by his son, Sebastian Klotz, one of the brightest lights of this notable family. How highly valued his instruments were, is shown by the prices some people paid for them. An English lord paid Mr. Hay in London \$300 (\$1,500) for a Sebastian Klotz, and it is said that a violin lover in New York offered \$1,700 for it without being able to get it. The "Strad" magazine says that Sebastian Klotz marked his violins with his initials, "S.K." placed in a certain position on the instrument, where it cannot be readily seen. Egital Klotz, son of Sebastian, is another famous star of the Klotz family. 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## She Studied with Liszt

(Continued from Page 753)

Stivicowich, Arpad Szendy.

Ladislas Tarnowski, Karl Tausig, Hilda Tegernström, E. Telbicz, Stephen Thoman, Otto Tiersch, Vera von Timanoff, Anton Urspruch, Iwanka Valeska, Baron Vegh, Vial, Pauline Viardot-Garcia, Rudolf Viole, Vital, Jean Voigt, Hortense Voigt, Ida Volkmann, Pauline von Voros, Voss, Henry Waller, Josephine Ware, Rosa Wappenhaus, Ella Wassemmer, Felix Weingartner, Olga Wein-Vaszilievitz, Weishemer, Weissheimer, Johanna Wenzel-Zaremska, Westphalen, Joseph Wieniawski, Margarethe Wild, Etelka Willhelm-Iloffsky, Winslow, Alexander Winterberger, Theodore de Witt, Janka Wohl, Peter Wolf, Jules Zaremski, Van Zeyl, Geza Zichy (the famous one-armed Hungarian pianist), Hermann Zopff and Johannes Zschöcher.

Some of the names mentioned above were not pianists. The others were composers, later celebrated, conductors, violinists—Remenyi and Joachim—and Van Der Stucken, musical critics who went to him for musical counsel. No money was ever received for his lessons. If the reader will look over this huge list of pupils and estimate how many hours of his life Liszt gave to them, and then will multiply this by the priceless value of his lessons, an idea may be gained of Liszt's philanthropy in this one direction.

A list of those who claimed to be pupils of Liszt is as indeterminate as a list of those who claim descent from the Mayflower's Pilgrims. As Liszt died in 1886, there are relatively few of his pupils living at this time. The most outstanding is of course Moriz Rosenthal, whose contributions to THE ETUDE during many years have been valuable additions to the musical pedagogical literature of the time. Possibly the only other Liszt pupil in America is Sophie Charlotte Gaebler of Milwaukee. As any recollection of Liszt's work as a teacher is of interest, her remarks are very pertinent. Now seventy-eight, Miss Gaebler, a member of the Wisconsin College of Music, continues her activities daily in carrying on the traditions of her great master, whose portrait with the inscription, "To my dearest Sophia," looks down upon her from the wall above her piano.

She was twenty-two and already well grounded in piano technic when she went to Weimar in 1885. Although Wisconsin born, she was thoroughly familiar with the German language and customs, by virtue of heritage. Breaking into the Liszt circle presented difficulties, however, and her success was not immediate. Therefore, she spent some time under the tutelage of Müller-Hartung, director of the Orchestral School in Weimar.

Only through the influence of close friends of Liszt was it possible to be admitted to the select group. Müller-Hartung had that influence, and it was Miss Gaebler's plan to convince him of her ability. Finally she sought his recommendation.

"I was surprised at his casualness. He merely said, 'Yes, why not? There are many Lisztianer (denoting Liszt pupils) who do not play as well as you do.' These words made possible the greatest period of my life—that period with Franz Liszt.

"Müller-Hartung took me to the masters' home, a beautiful structure overlooking a park and given to Liszt by the Grand Duke of Weimar. The introduction was a pleasant one. Liszt was so charming and amiable that it was not difficult to understand why he was pictured as music's most romantic figure.

"I was saved the ordeal of playing 'on trial,' so great was his faith in a friend's judgment. At last I was a member of the circle. Never has there been a greater thrill than that realization.

The Liszt circle was not confined to pianists, however. Well-known artists of the harp, violoncello, and violin also assembled there for the three afternoons weekly. One could scarcely think of the gathering as anything but a reception for music's notables.

"From the standpoint of teaching one might consider his lessons somewhat unorthodox. From a table covered with music he would select a piece. Then, turning to his pupils, he would ask if any of them played that particular number.

"One learned the wisdom of bringing the pieces he liked best. I suppose that it was a certain modesty in Liszt which made him refuse to criticize the conservatories which produced such products. But, like a storm, his anger soon vanished, and shortly he was smiling with an apologetic air.

"Occasionally Liszt would strike a wrong note, but he managed to conceal this so ingeniously that it was hardly noticed. Perhaps the best example of this occurred during a Sunday musical for a host of distinguished guests. Liszt was rolling up the piano in a grand style. When he struck a semi-tone short of the high note upon which he had intended to end, a smile came over his face, as much as to say, 'Don't fancy this little thing disturbs me,' and he went meandering down the keyboard in harmony with the false note. Then, rolling deliberately up in a second grand sweep, this time he struck true.

"When he played, a most extraordinary variety of expressions came over his features—dreaming, bewitching, shadowy. So vivid was his playing that the air became alive with spirits, and he could call them forth at will with his mastery. It was poetry filled with passion, wit, tenderness, or power.

"You know," he said seriously, "there was once a photographer who became a dentist. When a patient came in moaning with a toothache,

he forgot himself and said, "Smile, please."

"Liszt, it seems, was usually full of such little witticisms. His lessons never became the least bit tedious, although sometimes lasting over four hours.

"I recall that on one occasion I was playing Bach's 'Chromatique Fantasie,' and apparently my treatment was not serious enough. 'Ah!' he exclaimed, 'You must play that with more academic dignity, like a schoolmaster.'

"Another member of the group was doing wonderfully with a Beethoven sonata one afternoon, but his touch was a little too delicate. The master came over to the piano and put his ear to the keyboard, saying to the player, 'But, you know, one must be able to hear it.'

"We had to play by memory the numbers assigned us, but we could place the music on the piano. Liszt would beat time on the piano, occasionally so vigorously that the music would dance up and down. He would sometimes take the music in his hands, watching closely every note, and, if the player's memory failed, he would point at him and say rather severely 'There is your stumbling block.' Occasionally Liszt was angry, but these occasions were rare.

The only real anger I can recall was brought forth by a somewhat doubtful playing of Beethoven's Sonata, Opus 57, in F minor ('Appassionata'). He paced up and down the room and forced himself to listen until it became absolutely unbearable. He frowned, bent his head, and his long white hair fell over his face. He then proceeded to scold the student thoroughly and gravely to criticize the conservatories which produced such products. But, like a storm, his anger soon vanished, and shortly he was smiling with an apologetic air.

Through the use of his national subjects—of which there are taken from stories by Pushkin, the employment of folk songs, Khorovods, games and dances of antiquity, these works make a maximum of Rimsky-Korsakoff's achievement as a National composer. It must be admitted that as far as Rimsky-Korsakoff's music does not possess the profundity of Mussorgsky nor even the originality of portions of Borodin's 'Prince Igor' but as an ardent conservationalist, while he turned, passed on to the past, he stands alone. In these finds the imagination. In these finds he was unrivaled. As composer, conductor, collector of folk songs, editor and orchestrator of his friend's music, author of textbooks—one of which, 'Principles of Orchestration,' finished by his son Maximilian Sternberg, is especially valuable—and as a master of orchestral style, Rimsky-Korsakoff assuredly the most comprehensive personality among Russian Nationalist composers.

"But Liszt never played complete solos for us, only parts to illustrate

his criticisms. For his solo performances Never have I seen anyone so responsive or so completely thralled by a performer. It is a pity to see everyone rise and enter, an honor usually reserved for the Grand Duke or other nobility.

"He enjoyed seeing the ladies in different gowns at each meeting, so we varied our dress as much as possible. Once I decided on a white dress; but, not having one, I had to dye. Unfortunately, the dye had disagreeable odor which I did not discover until already at the meeting. Most of the group of thirty were standing. Suddenly Liszt began singing. Most of the group of thirty were standing. Suddenly Liszt began singing. The room until he located the source of the odor, and, offering me a glass of water, he led me to a chair at the side of the room and politely said, 'You sit down!'

But these are only a few of many memories Miss Gaebler has of Weimar and the great Hungarian pianist. His inspiration still guides her now knotted yet perfect fingers.

**College Band Performances**

The data governing the number of public and school performances presented by college bands throughout the school year of nine months is best portrayed through the following table:

C. Table of Performances	
Per Cent	Number of Appearances
9.8	1 to 10
29.3	10 to 20
23.8	20 to 30
16.8	30 to 40
20.3	Over 40

When the amount of rehearsal time averages only four hours and thirty-five minutes per week, the above median of 23.8% playing from twenty to thirty times during the school year would show that the college band is required to appear too often, considering the insufficient amount of rehearsal time available. Perhaps, in too many of our institutions, the band is regarded purely as a means of exploitation and advertising and not appraised in the true sense of the philosophies of music education.

Seventy-eight per cent of directors admit band members on the basis of try-outs, eleven per cent on a prescribed standard of previous training and experience, and the remaining

eleven per cent have no pre-requisites.

It is almost impossible to evaluate the standard of performance through the medium of a questionnaire. However, an estimate of the quality of band work in our colleges may be made from the information received, indicating that forty-seven per cent play grade A compositions, twenty-three per cent grade B, eleven and three tenths grade C, and four and one tenth per cent grade D, as classified in the National Music Educators' Handbook on Band contest materials.

The most vital problem affecting college bands and their development is that of scholastic credit and its inclusion in the college curriculum. The questionnaire blanks show that the number of credit hours permitted range from none to a maximum of four for the duration of the participation. A comment may be made at this point that it is in the matter of band credit and its place in the curriculum that serious research and attention is greatly needed. The various standards of rehearsal time, public performance, directors' qualifications, rehearsal facilities, and music library all need to be evaluated and correlated in standards for the various classifications of colleges, and from this a uniform accrediting system should evolve. This, more than any other factor, would permit more rapid development of college bands on accepted philosophies formulated by college and university administrators.

Various types of recognition for band participation were listed in the returns. Fifty-one per cent of those reporting give recognition in the form of medals, keys, sweaters, and similar rewards; nine and eight tenths per cent give part or full remission of tuition to certain key members; three per cent give rebates on student activity tickets; two and three tenths per cent pay cash in return for services. Other forms of recognition totaled three and eight tenths per cent, and thirty and one tenth per cent of all collegiate institutions give none of the above recognition.

An interesting fact gained from replies concerns the music libraries. With a few exceptions in the larger institutions having well-developed instrumental departments, the majority of band libraries contain a larger percentage of marches than any other classification of music listed. Symphonic works were next to the lowest in the scale of percentages. Some, however, have libraries of exceptional scope in music literature.

Returns on instrumentation of the college bands show the standard of instrumentation to be relatively high. The standards correlate closely with the balance of the returns, with state universities ranking highest in instrumentation.

(Continued on Page 793)

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## The College Bands of the United States

(Continued from Page 750)

remaining thirty-three per cent through the medium of other agencies, such as schools of music, self-support, "pep" organizations, or a combination of two or more of these agencies.

Sixty-two per cent of the band directors reported that their respective organizations were equipped with their own rehearsal room and thirty-eight per cent shared rooms with other campus activities. Eighty per cent of the answers indicated that the bands are outfitted in either R.O.T.C. or school-owned uniforms.

Of the number of bands rehearsing during regular school time, returns indicated that forty-six per cent come under this arrangement, thirty-six per cent rehearse at times other than regular school hours, and eighteen per cent of them rehearse part time under each classification.

**College Band Performances**

The data governing the number of public and school performances presented by college bands throughout the school year of nine months is best portrayed through the following table:

Sing-O-Pep	
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#### INSTRUMENTATION

3rd and 4th Eb Alto Horns

1st Eb Clarinet

2nd Eb Clarinet

3rd Eb Alto Saxophone

2nd Eb Alto Saxophone

## Backstage with Great Singers

(Continued from Page 754)

drew twelve curtain calls—she sat down at the piano and played a Chopin Nocturne. The audience was clamorous. She gave it another surprise; sweeping to a climax in a tripartite performance, unparalleled in New York, she sang, *Ah non giungi* from "La Sonnambula."

### Schumann-Heink, Mother

Also a part of this fabulous age of crowned heads in Europe and command performances was Schumann-Heink. I toured with her during the latter part of her career and on her visits to the war cantonments. How good it is to remember the way she warmed and cheered the boys by her singing, the way she mothered them! In addition to her voice and artistry, it was her great heart and love for all mankind that made her a supreme artist.

Two incidents come to mind that are typical of Mme. Schumann-Heink. One happened in Pocatello, Idaho, and involved her treasurer, a rather shy man who ordinarily would not think of stepping on the stage

when an audience was in the house. But one evening, just before the concert, he had occasion to go back stage from the box office. Not wanting to brave the snow outside, the alternative was to walk down the center aisle, up the stairs to the stage and out to the wings.

After some hesitation, he decided to do this, hastened up to the stage and almost ran to the wings. Just at this moment, Mme. Schumann-Heink was stepping forth for her first number. They met head on. The audience did not know whether to be shocked or amused until Mme. Schumann-Heink confided that if she could have run into a handsome young soldier instead, she would have thought much better of it. After that, in making her entrance, she would peer in all directions, then advance cautiously, to the further amusement of the audience. Always ready for the unexpected, she thought it better for an audience to laugh with her than at her.

Another time we were eating dinner in a railroad station in Kansas

City. Mme. Schumann-Heink despised handkerchiefs the size of postage stamps and carried one of quite ample proportions. She had no sooner tucked one of these into her handbag on getting up from the table, when a waiter accused her of making off with the napkin. Such an upbraiding as that waiter got, I have never heard before or since. It seemed that he visibly shrank in size at each fresh outburst.

Among other singers with whom I have been associated are: Matzenauer, Pons, Crooks and Tibbett, but I have room here for only a few more incidents. In my association with singers, I have witnessed many of their triumphs and thrills, and I remember one in particular. The scene was a restaurant across the street from the Metropolitan Opera House in New York, the time around midnight. A few of us had gathered there after a performance of "Falstaff." Everyone was talking at once about the sensational success of a young singer; everyone but the singer himself, who was present. He was strangely preoccupied. He was unable to grasp the fact that the goal of which he had dreamed, for which he had labored, struggled and sacrificed, was within his grasp. The thing had come about so unexpectedly, it took him by surprise. Many young singers in his shoes would have called it the occasion for a celebration, for breaking the rules of training with plenty to eat and drink. But not this young man. He ate his usual corn flakes and milk, just as he had always done after a performance. Lawrence Tibbett was just beginning to realize that now he belonged to the public and that overnight his responsibility to that public had increased greatly. It was a sobering thought, a challenge and not for him the occasion for letting down the bars.

Since I began touring with great changes have come. Singers have become more delineated for one thing, and the way carries their voices to the remote settlement. While no two singers alike, there are several characteristics which all great singers have. These are a zest for life as well as for their art and an intolerance of anything difficult to do. The desire for life is partly due to the health which they must maintain constantly. To any other person common cold, although annoying, is not the calamity it is to the singer. It may mean cancelled engagements and the loss of thousands of dollars. So the singer must keep singing, as a result, is usually singing with vitality.

The other is a quality you cannot feel by means of a sixth sense because of her love for all human beings. You felt it when Mme. Schumann-Heink sang, even in her later years, when her voice was not what it was. It is something that transcends race, creed, conditions of life, something that makes all people one. After all, it can't be denied that it must be felt, and great singers have the ability to make you feel.

Most singers have great faith in God. Mme. Sembrich always said, just before stepping onto the stage, "In the name of God." Likewise Mme. Schumann-Heink always said a prayer on her lips.

### Advice from a Prima Donna

I would like to relate an experience of more recent date which occurred while on tour with Lily Pons. In all her concerts Miss Pons uses a flutist; usually one is employed at each town, and a rehearsal is arranged just before the concert. On this occasion we had agreed to rehearse at the hotel, but through

some misunderstanding the flutist thought it was to be at the hotel last, only to discover the flutist had sent the wrong obbligato. Fortunately I had extra copies of right ones, but they were not available at the station and had to be sent for them. When I did reach the hall, the flutist had run down and the rehearsal place on the stage in view of the time after the audience had assembled. Through it all Miss Pons remained calm and unruffled. I thought she was not like most prima donnas who would have been very annoyed at such a mix-up. She said, "I never like to lose my temper before a concert because, if I do, I am doing well." What a wonderful rule every singer!

Before giving this advice we would like to congratulate all accordion teachers on the very excellent progress their students made during the past year. This is the first opportunity we have had to do so, since the Music Dealers' Convention in New York City. At that time we heard accordionists from every part of the country compete for trophies for solo, duet, trio, quartet and band playing.

Naturally, students lose enthusiasm when asked to rehearse the same few numbers over and over again.

As Told to ElVera Collins year; and, if one were to judge the improvement in their playing, he would think that several years had elapsed instead of one. Accordionists are advancing in grand style, so again we say that accordion teachers throughout the country, both in small towns and large cities, are doing a fine job—and we are proud of every singer!

Since I began touring with great changes have come. Singers have become more delineated for one thing, and the way carries their voices to the remote settlement. While no two singers alike, there are several characteristics which all great singers have. These are a zest for life as well as for their art and an intolerance of anything difficult to do. The desire for life is partly due to the health which they must maintain constantly. To any other person common cold, although annoying, is not the calamity it is to the singer. It may mean cancelled engagements and the loss of thousands of dollars. So the singer must keep singing, as a result, is usually singing with vitality.

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"In the name of God." Likewise Mme. Schumann-Heink always said a prayer on her lips.

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### CANTATAS

#### For Choirs of Mixed Voices

#### Harvest Home

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### Hymn of Praise

#### By Frederick Wick Price, 60 cents

The soprano, tenor and baritone solos in this cantata will not tax the ability of any soloists, and the chorus work for mixed voices can be handled by the average volunteer choir.

### Harvest Caravans

#### By Russell Hancock Miles Price, \$1.00

A chorus cantata of goodly proportions, but not difficult to sing. It is suitable for use by choirs, or community and well-trained high school choruses, during the Fall months or at any season of the year. The text is by Charles Cooper. Time, about 35 minutes.

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terest in ensemble playing by the introduction of a group of sonatinas which appealed to their students. The benefits to be derived from sonatina playing—whether they be played as a solo, duet, trio or quartet—are too well known to be enumerated here. Suffice it to say that they form a very essential part of the musical training for instruments such as the violin and piano and no competent teacher of these instruments would think of omitting them from his curriculum. They are equally important to accordionists.

To illustrate our point we present herewith two excerpts from accordion arrangements of sonatinas by the famous violinist, I. Plevel. The beauty of these lovely violin pieces has been brought out and enhanced in their accordion arrangement. They enable the accordion to approach very closely the effect of stringed chamber music. The fact that they may be used as solo, duet, trio or quartet enables teachers to adapt them either for large or for small groups. When played in quartet form, it is advisable for the first and second accordions to omit the bass accompaniment, thus enabling the four melodic lines to sing forth and show the beauty of the sonatina form!

And now let us get into the subject of suggestions for winter teaching. We would like to see as great an advancement made in ensemble playing as has been made in solo work, but for some reason it seems to be lagging behind. Perhaps this may be the fault of teachers who do not select interesting material for their groups. Naturally, students lose enthusiasm when asked to rehearse the same few numbers over and over again.

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(Continued on Page 790)



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## New Instrument Opportunities for Piano Teachers

(Continued from Page 716)

However, in addition to the *legato*, we have one other advantage for the piano student. That is the special training of the left hand, which, because of the dominance of the right hand in most piano pieces, does not have the requisite practice leading to the personality and individuality it should have. With the Solovox the left hand comes into its own.

My new pupils for the instrument came from two classes. The first consisted of those who knew nothing about music, but wanted to play the piano well and also wanted to play the Solovox. With these I used judgment, usually devoting three-quarters of the lesson period solely to piano instruction and one-quarter to the Solovox. The other class of pupils came from the immense field of adult music lovers, who in some instances for lack of time to practice, had lost interest in their music and needed some stimulant to create new interest. I found that the Solovox did this marvelously, and I secured many new pupils by inducing such piano owners to invest in a Solovox.

### The Musical Horizon Broadened

Now what has this done to me as a piano teacher with many years of successful experience? Well, I have not changed my opinion in the least about the piano, with its enormous possibilities, its great sensitivity in tonal effects, and its vast literature of masterpieces, written expressly for the instrument. The fact that for well nigh two centuries it has enthralled millions in recitals, and that it is the accompanying instrument for other instruments at all recitals, makes its position supreme. There is no substitute for the piano, and there never can be. But there is a big tonal world outside of the field encompassed by the piano. The piano, of course, is a percussion instrument, and its tone begins to die out the moment a key is struck. No single tone can be made louder or softer after the key is depressed. Its tone is peculiarly individual and always remains a piano tone.

With the Solovox, however, a tone may be expanded or reduced by a simple lever operated by the knee; just as the tone of a violin, a trumpet, or the human voice may be affected by crescendos or diminuendos. Scores of different tonal qualities may be achieved by alteration of the tonal levers or tone selectors. These different tonal qualities make an immense appeal to the young performer and to the amateur, who long for something which the percussive tone of the piano does not give them.

The Solovox has been found indispensable in radio studios and in

a knowledge of the tone selectors, it

took me only a short time to learn how to play the Solovox. At first, I had to adapt my music for it. That was because I know how to do that. However, the appearance of the *Solovox Album* by Jim Floyd, who was a member of the sensational World's Fair Band Orchestra at the New York Fair, I had an example of simple arrangements of themes, which are made for the Solovox and that are available for pupils. In addition there are a large number of publications by many authors publishing them, many from which may be adapted for our purpose. Your pupils will be sent you a list of these.

The Solovox is a new instrument, not in its principle, but in its novelty. It is here to stay to learn the key and the way. I predict, however, thousands of these remain to be sold to the piano world. This instrument is a product of the brain of Lazarus Samoiloff, the world's famous Organist, with whom many are familiar at this time. If you have said he is a genius, a cost of less than two thousand dollars, and it will undoubtedly give musical interest wherever placed. The sale of piano has increased in five years over sixteen per cent, and as the piano was better acquainted with the Solovox, I am sure even a greater number of pianos will be introduced into where there might not be one in music at present. I found the creation of the flute, the piccolo, the violoncello, the French horn, the oboe, the cello, and the bassoon astonishing. Many instrument imitations are not exact. However, the piano is in a sustained, steady tone. In fact, the potentialities of the Hammond Solovox have hardly been touched. For instance, a tone could easily be played in the air by two clever players adapting themselves to the instrument. This can emphasize the melody or can be played by little ones I find the children are fascinated by the instrument. The tubes used in the instrument are the same as those used in the ordinary radio. One of the features I consulted told me that the instrument, used for exhibition, and used daily for over a year, required almost no repairs.

The Solovox has been found indispensable in radio studios and in

## Town Hall Hallmark

(Continued from Page 730)

Hall stage spread with the speed of a cross-continent plane: Dorothy Maynor, the young Negro soprano whom Koussevitzky, conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, hailed as "an American Flagstad."

Miss Maynor was nearly thirty when she received the Award, a fact that was due to a number of things but chiefly to innate modesty that made her fail to recognize her own great powers. Fortunately for the musical public she was pushed toward a concert career, first by Dr. Nathaniel Dett, who, after hearing her sing, changed her enrollment in home economics at Hampton Institute to music, then by the Westminster Choir School in Princeton, which awarded her a scholarship, and finally by a Boston woman who told her in effect: "That voice must be heard; go to New York to study; I'll find the money." After that last big show, Miss Maynor took this concert stage business really seriously and went to work with an intensity of purpose that put her there three years later.

Last year's winner was not a woman, not an American—although he is soon to become one—and he had not previously won a prize. He differed in all respects from his three predecessors by being Robert Goldsand, twenty-nine-year-old Viennese pianist, a young man who had never before entered into competition of any sort nor won any manner of award.

He was not unknown to America for he made his début in Town Hall when he was sixteen, and many persons heard him play in this country before he disappeared from this and

all other concert scenes. Why he left the stage and went into retirement was a mystery not solved until he returned. Then, after he won the Town Hall Award, he gave to interviewers a reason that in part explains why Robert Goldsand was rated as extraordinary.

"I felt," he said, "after every concert that I had played that I had done only a small part of what I could do. I felt I must retire and study. I did not foresee that these five years I chose in which to do this would coincide with the greatest political landslides of centuries or that many countries of Europe would become closed to an artist. Yet, if I could have foreseen it, I would have done exactly the same thing. Now, to come back after those five years and to receive the great honor of this prize—it is the best news of my life!"

That "best news of my life" will undoubtedly be echoed by a fifth winner before many weeks have passed, for the calendar year of 1941 is nearing a close and that means that Town Hall, Incorporated, will soon choose another recipient for the Award, basing its decision on the performances that have been given in this twelve-month period. Early next year some John Jones is going to be thankful that the League for Political Education built a building, that music asked for admittance and the carpenters enlarged those stage doors so that a grand piano could pass through. For this strange combination of events led to a recognition of his exceptional musical gifts and resulted in his being hallmarked as a product outstandingly fine.



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3143 A May Day Dance, C—F—2—Crosby  
3165 An Airplane Ride (Arpeggio), 2—D—Richter  
3182 Andante Cantabile, Em—3—Tschalikowsky  
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3189 Barberini's Minuet, C—2—Hasse  
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3168 Busy Little Bee (Valse Capri), Am—2, Richter  
3170 Charming (Syrup, No. 3), C—2—Beethoven-Rolle  
3175 Darting in and Out, C—F—2—Armour  
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3189 First Waltz, C—F—2—Dvorak-Rolle  
3194 Night Flight Bee, C—5—Hinske-Korvin  
3184 Garland of Roses (Waltz), F—Bb—1—Strebbog  
3154 In Rose Time (Waltz), F—Bb—1—Armour  
3134 In Gay Costume (Minuetto), G—C—2—Crosby  
3137 Jolly Little Santa (Waltz), C—2—Crosby  
3173 Laces and Frills, Am—2—Chopin-Rolle  
3176 March Militaire, C—3—Schubert-Rolle  
3182 March the Sailor, E—5—3—in, Ivanow  
3162 Moonlight Waltz (Waltz), C—2—Armour  
3164 Mr. Third Takes a Walk, C—2—Richter  
3051 My Little Pet (Valse), C—2—Hopkins  
3150 Nannette (Poco Animato), F—1—Armour  
3167 Old Folks (Waltz), C—2—Hopkins  
3169 Rusty Wheel (Waltz), C—2—Armour  
3054 Roaming Up and Down (Mar.), C—2—Armour  
3161 Robin Red Breast (Waltz), F—C—2—Hopkins  
3167 Sail on Little Boat (Barcarola), F—2—Richter  
3163 Study in Three (March), G—C—2—Crosby  
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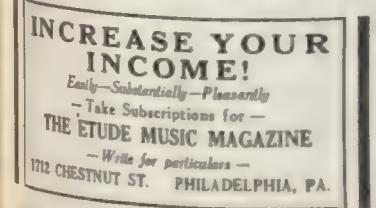
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## Lindenwood



## Some Things I Have Learned from Teaching

(Continued from Page 738)

to understand music as a language. Otherwise memory becomes mechanical—which is hazardous because, lacking foundation, it lets one down at unexpected moments. Speak music as you would your native tongue. Understand your interval relations; make yourself able to recognize modulation as the means of progress from one key to another. When a pupil gives evidence of mechanical memory, I stop him in the midst of a passage and ask him where he is going, what notes he means to play next, what relation exists between them and the notes just played. Unless a performer can announce his progressions as fluently as he plays them, he has not really memorized the composition. On the other hand,

memory slips never occur (normally speaking, of course) when the performer is as sure of his music as he is of the word-sequence of "How do you do?"

It is my firm belief that musical problems, so called, can generally be reduced through analysis to very simple and reasonable fundamentals. One has only to exert thought upon them. The first duty of a good teacher, then, is to encourage his students, not to play brilliant pieces, but to put forth the sort of enthusiastic and penetrating thought that will help them to solve their own problems. But, as I said before, I do not presume to offer this as a set pedagogic system. It is simply my own way of working things out.

## To Accordion Teachers

(Continued from Page 787)

accordion band arrangements, the principal part is carried by the first accordionist and the other parts are subordinated.

Excerpt from sonatina, No. 3, Op. 8.  
By I. Pleyel Arranged by Deiro

Allegro

Ensemble playing is one of the first steps toward orchestral training. We recommend it because accordionists must play the correct notes in the correct time and listen to the other parts while they play. They must also watch their director. Those who neglect this practice often regret it because they become so accustomed to playing solos that they are at a loss when they try to play accompaniments or do orchestra work.

While on this subject, we would like teachers to know that some very fine new quartet arrangements are being brought out by various accordion music publishers. The works of the greatest composers are now available for accordion groups and we urge teachers to give their students the opportunity to learn them.

And now, for further suggestions, we wonder how many teachers have tried the idea of giving Sunday afternoon recitals on the first Sunday in each month? It is a fine idea, and those teachers who tried it last year on our recommendation claim that the results were very gratifying. The

main purpose of the recital, of course, is to give the students an opportunity to play before an audience. This is a very vital part of their training, and the present custom of one or two concerts a year does not give students sufficient opportunity to acquire poise in public appearances. There is no question but what they concentrate and practice harder when they know that their playing will be put to a test before an audience. They feel that they are working toward an objective and their ambition is stimulated.

In order to have these recitals prove popular it is a good idea to combine music with social activities. The program should never be long. About ten selections are sufficient, and these can be divided into solos, duets, trios, quartets and full band so that every student has an opportunity to be featured in a solo and then in other parts.

One teacher writes us that he usually has other featured entertainment. If an accordion artist is in the vicinity, he is invited to attend. On other occasions advanced violin or piano students from other schools are invited to play, as they are usually grateful for the opportunity of getting experience before an audience. Another teacher tells us that he keeps a library of the latest recordings by all accordion artists and occasionally he plays these and invites a general discussion of the various styles of playing.

Those who have equipment for making records will find that the idea appeals to students; one or two recordings can be made during the recital and then played back immediately.

There are many novel ideas which can be used to keep interest stimulated during the winter months and serve as an impetus for harder practice.

\* \* \* \*

Pietro Deiro Will Answer Questions About Accordion Playing. Letters Should Be Addressed to Him in Care of THE ETUDE, 1712 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

### QUESTION AND ANSWER DEPT.

*Q. I am learning to play the accordion without a teacher, and I am worried about the position of my right hand on the keyboard. I hold my wrist so high that sometimes I find myself pushing the keys with the top of the fingernails of my index and middle fingers. Would you please tell me if this is wrong?*—L. R., Canada.

*A. Your hand position is decidedly wrong. The wrist should not be raised, but should be on a level line with the forearm. The elbow forms a pivot and the entire forearm, wrist and hand should move up and down the keyboard so there is a straight line from the tip of the elbow to the knuckles of the hand. A wrist raised as high as you describe will cause cramped muscles which produce quick fatigue.*

## Musical Radiations on the Ether

(Continued from Page 742)

in order to permit many Mexican children to hear all the broadcasts. The Tuesday musical programs for November will present interesting material, for they are concerned with folk music and art music of North, Central, and South America, and the relation of music to our work and play. The times of the broadcasts are 9:15 to 9:45 A.M., EST; 2:30 to 2:55 P.M., CST; 9:30 to 10:00 A.M., MST; and 1:30 to 2:00 P.M., PST. (The interested reader would do well to check the broadcasting time with his local paper.)

Looking through the lists of the three major radio chains, we notice many worthwhile programs for the music lover, aside from those we have mentioned. On Sundays, for example, two organists can be heard in the morning if one is an early riser, Charles Courboin (8:05 A.M., EST—NBC-Red network) and Julius Matthiess (9:15—CBS network). Later in the morning, there are the "Wings Over Jordan" program (CBS), a recital by the "First Piano Quartet" (NBC-Blue network), and the "Personale String Quartet Program" (Mutual network). During the noon hour, the Salt Lake City Tabernacle Choir and Organ are heard on the CBS network, besides the programs of the Radio City Music Hall on the NBC network. Sunday afternoon is full of musical treats, which may well keep the ardent music lover "glued" to his radio. Besides the New York Philharmonic broadcast, there is the NBC String Symphony program, directed by Dr. Frank Black (NBC-Red network), the Metropolitan Opera Auditions (NBC), the Andre Kostelanetz program featuring the violinist Albert Spaulding and soloists (CBS). Sunday evenings bring, besides the Ford Hour, "Symphonic Strings" (Mutual); "American Album of Familiar Music," with Vivian Della Chiesa, Jean Dick-

son and Frank Mack (CBS), and the "Columbus Writers' Experimental Musical and Dramatic Productions."

On Monday evenings the highlights would seem to be "Telephone Hour" featuring Melton and Francis Ward (Red), Juan Arango, the Spanish American tenor (CBS), and Bill Bennett's Notebook (CBS). In the evenings, we have "Music of the Orchestra with Jimmy Durante" (Mutual), providing a regular entertainment, and "Tuesday evenings Music in Melody," featuring George Rose, offering light classics.

Tuesday evenings are mostly tests as Major Bowes' "World Amateur Hour" (Mutual), CBS network, and the "Standard Symphony Hour" (CBS) cast in the Pacific area, which has been featuring conductors like Janacek and Paul Henze (CBS), Don Lee (network), and the regularly pleasurable program of Alfred Wallenstein's "Sunday Night."

Friday evenings present the "Service Program" with Dr. Frank Black, Lucile Marion, and Dr. Graham (NBC-Red), the "Piano Quartet Recital" (NBC), a folk song program by Billie (CBS).

Saturday evenings offer the broadcasts by favorite performers the young and old, and the best to the best type of dancing.

The more serious minded have the "America Program" featuring Alfred Wallenstein, soloists, and the "Clouds of the Air" with Marian Anderson and others in light opera program (both Mutual), and last but least, the "Saturday Night Show" with Jessica Dragonetti (CBS).

## New Instrument Opportunities For Piano Teachers

(Continued from Page 788)

many of the famous dance bands in simulating other instruments and securing new tonal effects. The instrument is also valuable to students studying scores.

There is now no doubt in my mind that literally thousands of music teachers, who have been struggling along with old conventional methods, might increase their incomes notably if they would look upon music in a little broader way. Surely the ministry of good music must not be

restricted to a few so-called "geniuses." Many teachers have failed to make good because they have held to the great and hypocritical standard of great musicians and the greatest created their works for all time, not for a restricted few. The world is changing mighty fast, and the wide awake teacher must be on the alert for human progress. He may do his work for service. He may do his work for any sacrifice of his own personal

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## FRETTED INSTRUMENTS

### The Future of the Fretted Instruments

By George C. Krick

E. Patton has for some years featured the Hawaiian guitar; and his Hawaiian guitar orchestra of one hundred players has caused surprise and astonishment by their fine performances. Mr. Joseph Pizzitola of Holyoke, Massachusetts, directs one of the best mandolin orchestras we have been privileged to hear, and he deserves great credit for keeping the mandolin before the public. His orchestra is well known throughout New England, and at the annual convention of the National Association of Music Merchants in New York City its appearance was received with thunderous applause.

Other bands and orchestras whose membership is fifty or more include the Karch Plectro Symphony of Cincinnati, Ohio; Tatham's Y. M. C. A. Banjo Band, Detroit, Michigan; Gehman-Hunsberger Orchestra, Lansdale, Pennsylvania; McMichael's Plectro-Phonic Band, Newark, Ohio; Dyer's String Band, St. Joseph, Missouri; Weiser's Plectro-Phonic Orchestra, Johnstown, Pennsylvania;

Pflueger's Hawaiian Orchestra, Cincinnati, Ohio; Waddington's Venetian Orchestra, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada; Guzzardo's String Orchestra, Rockford, Illinois; Pifer's Banjo Band, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania; and the Halsted Hawaiian Orchestra, Buffalo, New York.

Lack of space forbids us to add many more ensembles to this list, but we feel that it has been proven that the fretted instruments are very much alive in cities where teachers are actively engaged in keeping them before the public.

If further proof is required let us look at the various events taking place during the four day convention of the American Guild at Niagara Falls, New York, July 7th to 10th of this year. On the first day there were scheduled contests for soloists, duets, quartets, orchestras and bands, concluding with an artist's recital in the evening. The second day saw a continuation of the contests in which players of all the fretted instruments were entered. On the third day, still more contests took place in the morning; and in the afternoon the grand Guild parade wound through the streets of Niagara Falls, with over six hundred players of the fretted instruments taking part in this colorful spectacle. Excitement and enthusiasm ran high, as one band after another made its appearance. In the evening of the same day, the Guild

(Continued on Page 793)

*Just Published!*

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OF A  
JOURNEY  
*A Suite for Piano*  
By  
Robert Stoltz  
Op. 713

It is with distinct pride that we announce this delightful new suite by a distinguished Viennese composer. Richly endowed and thoroughly pianistic, it promises to achieve a notable and lasting success. These ingratiating pieces, which are in no way difficult to play, evoke ecstatic recollections of a moonlit Arabian village (*Beneath an Arabian Moon*); the gaiety of a Norwegian Peasant Wedding; the sparkling iridescence of the Fountains of Versailles; and the light-hearted scenes of *Carnival in Vienna*. The book is attractively bound, charmingly illustrated in black and white, and each number is prefaced with suitable lines.

Robert Stoltz, contemporary of Lehar, Romberg, and Oscar Straus, has won international fame with such stage successes as *White Horse Inn* and *Beloved Rogue*. He also has thrilled the world with such film delights as *Two Hearts in Three-Quarter Time*; *The Song Is Over, My Heart Is Calling* (starring Jan Kiepura); and *Spring Parade*, in which Deanna Durbin reached new peaks.

Price, \$1.50

[The four numbers in this Suite also are published separately in sheet form.]

Have You Heard . . .  
*Nostalgia*  
By ROBERT STOLTZ

The wistful yet gracious quality of this waltz fantasy cannot be described. As perfume quickens a treasured memory, so does this lovely music stir thoughts of gallant, happy days now gone. Like a dream that lingers on, with quiet resignation it sings its haunting melody more and more into one's consciousness.

Published for Piano Solo . . . . . 60  
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The Etude Music Lover's Book Shelf  
(Continued from Page 743)

first in the Orient, to blossom forth again in Greece, Rome, Italy, and other European countries.

The surprising facts in Miss Arvey's book are the well documented references to countless pieces of music which really owe their existence to the dance. Music, therefore, owes as great a debt to dancing as dancing does to music. Dancing without music is not uncommon. Your reviewer remembers standing beside the late King Alfonso of Spain, in Seville, watching his absorption in a dance performed by two small boys who needed no more music than the snapping of their fingers in fascinating rhythm.

Miss Arvey concludes her work with a lengthy list of choreographic music.

"Choreographic Music"  
Author: Verna Arvey  
Pages: 523  
Price: \$3.75  
Publisher: E. P. Dutton & Co., Inc.

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A Psalm of Thanksgiving  
(Continued from Page 731)

We of THE ETUDE give thanks for the splendid enthusiasm and support of our readers everywhere—especially those who have written us that, realizing the peculiar helpfulness of THE ETUDE at this time, in working to sustain public morale through music, they have been redoubling their efforts to introduce this work into more and more homes, where it is needed.

Despite the black clouds that many seem to think are smothering civilization, we wish Etude readers to join with us in repeating one of the most uplifting of all songs of praise, the One Hundredth Psalm.

"For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth all generations."

Going to Buy a New Piano?

One doesn't buy a new piano every day and to invest in one is a process upon which the average musician needs to give serious thought so that he can get the most for his money. THE ETUDE has tried to help by publishing an interesting and enlightening little booklet entitled

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THE ETUDE MUSIC MAGAZINE  
1712 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

The Future of the Fretted Instruments  
(Continued from Page 791)

Festival Concert took place before an audience which more than filled the large high school auditorium; the program consisted of classic and modern compositions excellently played by the outstanding orchestras, together with many solo numbers by some of the greatest artists on the plectrum instruments. The morning of the fourth and last day was devoted to a Guild business meeting, and in the afternoon occurred one of the most important events of the convention, the broadcast of the combined bands and soloists over the Mutual Network. The same evening saw the awarding of trophies to the winners in the many contests.

These Guild conventions, of which this was the fortieth, bring together, once each year, many hundreds of teachers, artists, bands and orchestras, and there is no doubt that the influence of such a gathering is felt throughout the land as visitors return to their home cities, filled with enthusiasm and inspiration that will be of great benefit to themselves and their pupils.

This reference to the Guild convention would be incomplete without a review of the artists participating in the various programs. Judging from the programs before me, the different fretted instruments were never better represented than in the hands of these top ranking players. Here we see Carlo De Filippis, well known mandolinist; Rey de la Torre, a newcomer from Cuba and pupil of Miguel Llobet, classic guitar; William D. Bowen exponent of the five string banjo; Peter Vournas, mandolinist; Anthony Miliello, tenor banjoist; Eddie Alkire, Hawaiian guitarist; Harry Volpe, American swing guitarist; and Nick Lucas, the American troubadour.

When we add to these names those of Giuseppe Pettine, mandolinist; William Place, mandolinist; Anthony Antone, tenor banjoist; Frank C. Bradbury, banjoist; Jorge Oeller, guitarist; Vicente Gomez, guitarist; Albert Bellson, mandolinist; and William Foden, guitarist, we have here a galaxy of stars in the fretted instrument world of which we might well be proud.

What is sorely needed is a concert bureau under American Guild auspices, so that recitals could be arranged for any of these artists in order to let the general public become acquainted with the artistic possibilities of the fretted instruments when in the hands of a true artist. And what a wonderful opportunity an artist would have, if, through the co-operation of a number

of teachers, concert tours could be arranged to give three or more recitals per week, if only during a period of three or four months each year. This would not only stimulate the ambition of every concert artist, but also arouse greater interest among the younger players, and thereby benefit the teachers to quite an extent. The American Guild is the logical authority to undertake such a venture, and we hope to see it take action in the near future to put this suggestion on a practical basis.

The College Bands of the United States

(Continued from Page 785)

strumental balance as a whole, followed by agricultural and technical schools, teachers' colleges, and privately endowed schools third, with almost similar standards of instrumentation, and music conservatories last in order.

It is realized that tabulation of replies to questionnaires is at best a somewhat crude yardstick with which to measure activities of college bands of our country. But the compilation of the type of figures presented herein is both interesting and roughly informative. It gives an idea of the status quo, and gives food for thought to all who are interested in the college band of the United States.

Naturally, a much more thorough and comprehensive survey would be needed, with a greater group of statistical returns to make any reasonably accurate analysis on which to make any sort of premises. Generally, there seems to be a need for a better acceptance of instrumental music as a vital part of advanced education. In places, bands of our colleges have reached unprecedented recognition and dignity, functioning as irreplaceable units of cultural and educational life, but room for future development and for a more widespread acceptance certainly exists.

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# The Junior Etude

Edited by  
ELIZABETH A. GEST

## Junior Club Outline Assignment for November

(a) Another of the world's great composers was born the same year as Bach, Georg Friedrich Handel. Give a short account of Handel's life, as found in your history of music.

(b) What was his purpose in writing the "Water Music?"

(c) What is an oratorio?

(d) Handel is buried in Westminster Abbey. Where and what is Westminster Abbey?

### Terms

(e) Give in your own words definitions for MELODY and HARMONY.

(f) Choose one of the best definitions presented for each term and write them in your notebook.

(g) What is the meaning of *poco a poco*?

### Keyboard Harmony

(h) Play the following pattern of tonic and subdominant triads in all major keys, without stumbling.

### The Hungry Bunny (Game)

By Joanne Betta (Age 8)

All the words in Italics can be spelled on the keyboard. The first one to write them on the staff wins the game.

There was a little bunny, who hopped from place to place, to find himself some *cabbage* to fill his little face. The bunny met a boy, whose name was Thomas *Ed*, who threw away a radish, and on it Bunny *fed*. A hen he met when hungry, and begged her for an *egg*. "If I were you," she told him, "I would not sit

(i) The triad on the fourth degree of the scale is called the sub-dominant; that on the fifth degree is called the dominant. What is the triad on the first degree called?

Books for reference: "Standard History of Music"; "Keyboard Harmony for Juniors"; "What Every Junior Should Know About Music."



### Keyboard Harmony Pattern

#### Musical Program

Any of Handel's compositions for piano, or arrangements of his vocal or orchestral compositions. Also, if possible, borrow some recordings, such as the *Hallelujah Chorus* from his oratorio, "The Messiah"; the "Water Music Suite"; the song *Where E'er You Walk*. His *Harmonious Blacksmith* has been recorded on the harpsichord as well as on the piano.

### The Hungry Bunny (Game)

By Joanne Betta (Age 8)

and *beg*." Upon a tree-top swaying, he saw a birdie's nest; quoth he, "I think I'll tarry, and sit me down to rest." The bird was singing gaily and dropped him down some seed, and Bunny thanked her kindly for her most thoughtful *deed*. And then he winked his blinkers and on his way did *gad*, for hopping 'round the country was now his latest *fad*. He reached his hole by night-fall and tumbled into *bed*, a weary little Bunny, but felt he'd been well *fed*.

*(Answers on next page)*

### Little Listener

By Nellie G. Allred

The boy stood with his nose pressed between the pickets of the high fence. The night was chilly, and rain fed. But the child did not notice. With his eyes half closed, he listened to the enchanting sounds that floated to him through the open window. A girl was singing. The high, clear tones delighted him. Now the voice stopped, but the music went on—soft, rippling notes, like fairy sounds.

"What now, my little man? What do you want here?" a kind voice asked.

At first, the child thought he would run away. But the voice was so kind, and the touch on his torn wet sleeve so tender, that he stammered, "I—I came to listen, sir."

"Very well. Come in, and my daughter will play for you." And Signor Barezzi took the boy's hand and led him up the steps and into the warm, softly lighted room.

"Here is the child, Grazia," he said to the young lady at the piano. "He comes to listen to your music."

"We have noticed you outside the fence, many nights," the girl said kindly to the boy. "We wondered why you came."

### America's Blessings

By Mrs. Paul Rhodes

(Read the verse by filling in the blanks with musical terms. The rhyme and meter must be retained.)

We love the grand old U. S. A.  
Where peace and freedom —(1)—  
full sway.

We —(2)— with pride and sing with  
—(3)—

These lovely —(4)—, "say can you  
see?"

Salute the stars and —(5)— which  
wave;

They —(6)— the homeland of the  
brave.

The red, and white, and blue will  
blend  
As freedom's —(7)— without end.

In countries filled with greed and  
gain,  
There is no —(8)—, and life is pain;  
Where war clouds fill the —(9)—  
with strife

No man can lead a happy life.

But in this land so fair and free  
We —(10)— "Sweet land of liberty".  
We guard our shores with greatest  
care  
And —(11)— the blessings which we  
share.

*(Answers on next page)*

### Endless Chain Game

By Arthur Davidson

Here's a game to test your musical knowledge which you can play with no equipment.

The first player names a composer; the next player takes the last letter of the name just mentioned and gives a composer whose name begins with that letter; the third player does the same, giving a composer whose name begins with the last letter of the second composer. And so the game continues. When someone misses, he becomes an "R"; a second miss makes him an "R-E," a third miss makes him an "R-E-S" and his last miss makes him an "R-E-S-T," after which he is out of the game.

"Then will you not play?"  
The boy stopped and thought slowly, and pressed his fingers on the keys. Then he sat on the bench and began to play. He came carried away with his playing. He forgot that Signor Barezzi and his daughter were listening. He had not played upon the piano instrument. Of course errors. But he was so absorbed, and put so much heart into his music, that Signor Barezzi

"Splendid! Splendid!" he cried. "Why, boy, you are excellent! And now, Grazia, come for him while I tell you what I have done about this little music."

And from that day on he became a guiding light to the boy, who was Giuseppe Verdi. He said that the boy had improved so rapidly did he practice that the age of twelve, he was granted the church at Busseto, the little Italian village that was his home.

Verdi lived to be an old man. He sent a picture of our little rhythm orchestra. We had an operetta and we sold our tickets at fifty cents. Our teacher, who is my mother, gave each of us an envelope with some tickets in it. If we sold all of our tickets, we could invite a child for our special guest. Besides the play, we had some poems, dances, songs and two orchestra numbers. We also had some pieces played on the saw. We got fifty dollars from the performance. We are using the money to buy books for the school library.

From your friend:  
Thomas Glenn Roberts,  
Box 1311,  
Trujillo City,  
Dominican Republic.

Dear Junior Etude:  
We have received The Etude for only a short time, but I must tell you how much I enjoy it especially the Junior Page.

I am a sophomore in high school. For the past three years I have taken piano lessons, and I have been drum-major for our Junior High School Band for two years. I also enjoy singing. I am at present taking xylophone lessons from our school director.

All in all I find music and things related to it very predominating in my life; perhaps that is why I enjoy a good music magazine like The Etude.

From your friend:  
La Verne Kangas (age 15),  
Minnesota.



GIUSEPPE VERDI  
1813-1901

won fame as a composer of operas. We are all acquainted with some famous operas: *La Traviata*, *Aida*, *Rigoletto*, *Fairuz*, etc. In spite of his fame and fortune he never forgot that night he sat outside the softly lit window, listening to a girl singing, and the kind man who opened to him the doors of the world of music.

1. to hurry; 2. a bird; 3. a city in Colorado; 4. a day in the week; 5. a precious stone; 6. a shellfish.



BABY STRING ORCHESTRA, Alliance, Ohio  
The oldest member of this orchestra is nine years of age, the youngest only three.

### Miss Gepner's Colored Pencils

By Gladys M. Stein

Rosalind noticed a sharp-pointed red pencil lying on the studio piano, as she placed her music on the instrument before starting her lesson.

"I hope," she thought, "that Teacher isn't going to mark up my pieces with that pencil."

"I'm trying out a new idea," said Miss Gepner, the teacher, when she saw Rosalind looking at the pencil.

"Each week I'm going to mark the mistakes in the pupils' lessons with a different colored pencil. This week it will be red, next week green, and the following week blue. For instance," she explained, "if you use a wrong fingering to-day, I will mark

### Junior Etude Contest

Class A, fifteen to eighteen years of age; Class B, twelve to fifteen; Class C, under twelve years. Names of all the prize winners and their contributions will appear on this page in a future issue of THE ETUDE. The thirty next best contributors are grouped according to age as follows:

this page in a future issue of THE ETUDE. The thirty next best contributors will be given a rating of honorable mention.

#### SUBJECT FOR THIS MONTH

### "My Musical Ambition"

All entries must be received at the Junior Etude Office, 1712 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa., not later than November 15. Winners will appear in the February issue.

#### CONTEST RULES

- Contributions must contain not over one hundred and fifty words.
- Name, age and class (A, B, or C) must appear in upper left corner and your address in upper right corner of your paper. If you need more than one sheet of paper, be sure to do this on each sheet.
- Write on one side of paper only and do not use a typewriter.
- Do not have anyone copy your work for you.
- Clubs or schools are requested to hold a preliminary contest and to submit not more than six entries (two for each class).
- Entries which do not meet these requirements will not be eligible for prizes.

### Honorable Mention for June Opera Square Puzzle:

### Honorable Mention for June Essays:

Laura I. Henninger; Paul Hammer; Ruth Valderrama; Dorothy Williams; Virginia Kerr; Janice Gilligan; Arlene Woods; Carroll Chipman; Barbara Dye; Mary Elizabeth Long; Shirley Jane Fries; Charlotte Weimer; Natalie Topkins; Gae Calderon; Ellis B. Cooper, Jr.; Betty Mae Smith; Iris Coleen Reneker; Martha W. Duval; John Boehme; Don R. Lipsitt; Mary Elizabeth Long; Roy Reneker; Florence Lockridge; Fay Duke; Florence Ellen Johnson; Helen Farrow; Robert Frankfort; Loula Bonelli; Francis Ferguson; Eiley Silvers; Helen Bateman; George Anderson.

### Which Do I Prefer, Orchestras or Bands?

(Prize winner in Class A)

For me this question has but one very definite answer. I believe that the symphony orchestra can be equalled by no other musical organization in any way. A person listening to a symphony orchestra gets every type of emotional feeling from the very strongest, which results from a loud chord from the whole orchestra, down to the delicate whisper produced by a long sustained violin tone at the end of a solo. The very best of bands can not produce effects equal to this, and it is easy to see why. The instrumentation of the orchestra includes the instruments of the band with the strings added. Therefore the symphony orchestra can produce the effects of the band, but the band can not produce the effects of the orchestra.

The music of the orchestra is of a variable type; and whether you care for modern compositions or the symphonies of Beethoven, you can hear either from the symphony orchestra. There were no bands as we have them now in the time of Beethoven, so all the music written for bands is of rather recent origin.

I have never heard a symphony orchestra except over the radio and through recordings, but even in this way it produces for me the very greatest of musical enjoyment.

Dorothy Ann Zimmerman (Age 15),  
Kansas



JUNIOR MOZART CLUB  
Fort Dodge, Iowa

### Answers to Diagonal Opera Square Puzzle:

- librettos; 2, Donizetti; 3, Ethopian; 4, Offenbach; 5, "Robin Hood"; 6, Norwegian; 7, Overtures; 8, Holy Grail; 9, Beethoven; Diagonal; "Loehengrin."

Prize winners for June Opera Square Puzzle:

- Class A, Larry Brown (Age 16), Georgia  
Class B, Barbara Dye (Age 14), California  
Class C, Betty Litschert (Age 8), Pennsylvania

### Which Do I Prefer, Orchestras or Bands?

(Prize winner in Class B)

In the contest, "Which do I prefer, orchestras or bands?", I prefer bands. I have played in both bands and orchestras, but bands have always been a slight favorite because of the snappy music played as they march down the street. I like to hear the roll of the snare drum. Cornets blazing away send a thrill through me that I do not get from orchestras. Another reason I like bands best is because I do not like the dull gowns worn by orchestra performers, and I do not like the slow, dull music they often play. So, on the whole, these reasons make me prefer bands to orchestras.

Carl Curry (Age 12),  
Pennsylvania

### America's Blessings

- Answers: 1, hold; 2, swell; 3, glee; 4, lines; 5, bars; 6, grace; 7, keynote; 8, rest; 9, air; 10, sing; 11, count.

**THE COVER FOR THIS MONTH**—Down in Salem, Virginia, there is a man by the name of James Malley, who in addition to being a music teacher is an expert on the care and conditioning of pianos. As a hobby and an avocation he enjoys photography. THE ETUDE MUSIC MAGAZINE has secured the rights for magazine cover use on several of his excellent photographs, and the hands of the church organist reproduced on the cover of this issue is one of these fine photographs.

**CHRISTMAS MUSIC**—The Christmas season is here! At least it is here for music publishers and individuals who take part in planning the musical portions of the numerous programs that are to be presented. Considerable new Yuletide music in the various classifications already has rolled off the presses and it is highly gratifying to learn that the "early-bird" buyers are waxing enthusiastic about these new Christmas offerings. As usual, the quality and appeal are undeniable.

Indicative of the splendid recent issues are that *Wondrous Christmas Night*, Portuguese Carol, arranged for mixed voices by H. P. Hopkins (21466—10c); *Father Christmas*, Russian Carol, arranged for mixed voices by H. P. Hopkins (21467—8c); *Good Christian Men, Rejoice*, 14th Century Melody, harmonized by J. S. Bach, arranged for mixed voices, a cappella, by Harvey Gaul (OD 15089—15c); *The Holly Tree Carol*, Cornish Carol, arranged for divided mixed voices, a cappella, by Ralph E. Marryott (OD 15091—15c); *Christians, Be Joyful*, by Russell Hancock Miles, for mixed voices (OD 15092—15c); *The Chant Sublime*, by Franz Bornschein, for mixed voices (OD 15093—15c); *Three Christmas Carols (Of a Rose Now Let Us Sing, A Virgin Was So Lovely, and Oh Mary, My Mother)*, harmonized by Alfred Whitehead, for mixed voices (OD 15095—10c); *The Shepherds and the Inn*, Mexican Carol, adapted by Harvey Gaul, arranged for treble voices, S. S. A., by Ruth E. Bailey (OD 15090—15c); *A Good Christmas Cheer*, by William Baines, for treble voices, S. A. (21465—6c); *The Infant Holy*, by Louise E. Stairs, Cantata for mixed voices (60c); and *Overture for organ* (from "For Us a Child Is Born"), by J. S. Bach, arranged by Harvey Gaul (40c).

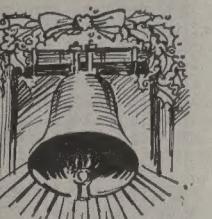
All of these are superior works that warrant your consideration, so why not examine single copies of any or all of them now while you still have ample time. "On Approval" requests for these as well as any other seasonal program materials will be cheerfully honored by the Theodore Presser Co. Furthermore, our experienced clerks will be most happy to assist you in making an appropriate selection if you so desire.

**STUNTS FOR PIANO, A Very First Exercise Book**, by Ada Richter—This novel book serves to "sugar coat" the lesson period and maintain pupil interest by making stunts out of what really are basic technical studies. The author believes that while children generally do not like scales and exercises, they do enjoy them when they are disguised in this way.

The studies are short, not too difficult,

# Publisher's Notes

A MONTHLY BULLETIN OF INTEREST  
TO ALL MUSIC LOVERS



and each is preceded by explanatory text matter. Technic phases treated are extension of the fingers over a one-octave passage, running scales divided between the hands, keyboard leaps, staccato and legato phrasing, "thumb under" passages, and use of the pedal. Toothpick or matchstick type drawings illustrate the characteristic titles, such as *Stretch Yourself, Relay Race, Broad Jump, Climbing a Pole, Running on Tiptoes, and Pole Vaulting*. There are eighteen studies in all, one being a duet for teacher and pupil.

A single copy of this new book may be assured by placing your order now at the special advance of publication cash price, 25 cents, postpaid.

**CHILDHOOD DAYS OF FAMOUS COMPOSERS**—*The Child Mozart*, by Lottie Ellsworth Coit and Rose Bampton—From the early life and first compositions of the "child wonder" Mozart, the authors of this unique book have produced an intensely interesting combination of stories, pictures, and music that will have a real appeal to young music students.

How Mozart demonstrated his love of music while only three years of age, how he started lessons on the harpsichord and began composing soon after makes fascinating reading for youngsters. Added to this will be pictures of Mozart as child, and six of his compositions in special, simplified piano arrangements—five solos and one duet. Two of these were written by Mozart before his eighth birthday. Suggestions as to the use of the book with children of varying ages will be included with a

**SYMPHONIC SKELETON SCORES. A Listener's Guide for Radio and Concert**, by Violet Katzner.

No. 7, Symphony No. 4 in F Minor

To make it possible for the true music lover among radio, record and concert audiences to follow the melodic thread of great symphonies as performed by great orchestras, Miss Katzner conceived the idea of isolating the melody line from the complete score of each symphony.

**Advance of Publication Offers**

NOVEMBER 1941

All of the books in this list are in preparation for publication. The low Advance Offer Cash Prices apply only to orders placed NOW. Delivery (postpaid) will be made when the books are published. Paragraphs describing each publication appear on these pages.	
Adam Geibel Anthem Book.....	.35
Childhood Days of Famous Composers—Mozart.....Coit-Bampton	.20
Child's Own Book of Great Musicians—Sousa.....Tapper	.10
Concert Transcriptions of Favorite Hymns—Piano.....Kohlmann	.40
In Robot Land—Men's Operetta.....Yeamans	.40
Lawrence Keating's Junior Choir Book...	.25

ADVERTISEMENT

This she has done, giving clear indications as to which particular instruments is carrying the melody, in a unique series of *Symphonic Skeleton Scores*, of which this is No. 7.

The success of the six previously published Skeleton Scores (No. 1, *Symphony No. 5 in C Minor—Beethoven*; No. 2, *Symphony No. 6 in B Minor—Tchaikovsky*; No. 3, in D Minor—Franck; No. 4, *Symphony No. 1 in C Minor—Brahms*; No. 5, *Symphony in B Minor (Unfinished)—Schubert*; and No. 6, *Symphony in G Minor—Mozart*) (Price, 25 cents each) indicates a real need for them among radio listeners, record enthusiasts and concert goers—inspired this last addition. Like each of the six books already issued, this forthcoming Skeleton Score will include an analysis of its symphonic form.

While *Symphonic Skeleton Score No. 1—Symphony No. 4 in F Minor by Tchaikovsky*—is in preparation a single copy may be ordered at the special cash price of 25 cents, postpaid. Delivery will be made as soon as published.

## JOHN McCORMACK

*The Story of a Singer*  
by L. A. G. STRONG

One of the most fascinating biographies we have ever published. It is a fairy tale come true—the story of the unknown lad from Athlone who rose to world fame. \$3.00

## OUR SINGING COUNTRY

by JOHN A. LOMAX  
and ALAN LOMAX

A second volume of American ballads

and folk songs collected by the Lomaxes. Music transcribed by Ruth Crawford Seeger. Probably \$5.00

All bookstores

## THE MACMILLAN COMPANY

60 Fifth Ave., New York

**CONCERT TRANSCRIPTIONS OF FAVORITE HYMNS**, for Piano, by Clarence Kohlmann—There is an endless and incessant demand for the favorite hymns in good

useful piano arrangements. Opportunities for their use come up every day, particularly in the field of religious activity. Also in the home and in the studio there is a ready place for this music we love. For these reasons we have arranged with Mr. Clarence Kohlmann for the preparation of the book offered here.

Mr. Kohlmann's achievements in the field of transcription are well known. He has won a national following as organist at the great Auditorium in Ocean Grove, N. J., where for many summers he has used another instruction book and are ready to begin the study of scales and pieces of grade one-and-a-half.

Of course, the majority of customers who know what to expect of any new booklets issued in this Child Own Book series. From past experience with any or all of the other 19 parts of the series, they know that any new issue will serve admirably to stimulate the interest of all young students of music whether they are being taught private or in class. These same experienced teachers know that besides affording a educationally enjoyable reading experience that is thoroughly understandable and enlightening for the individual these ingenious miniature volumes also may be used as class project material taking advantage of the "busy-work" possibilities afforded by the "pass-set" pictures, the "art-style" binding equipment, and the "story-in-my-own-world" section at the end.

The new album will comprise more than twenty hymns in excellent pianistic adaptations in grades three and four. Among the contents one will find such favorites as: *Sun of My Soul; Saviour, like a Shepherd Lead Us; Onward, Christian Soldiers; Sweet Hour of Prayer; Day Is Dying in the West; My Jesus I Love Thee; The Promised Land; and I Love Tell the Story*.

This book is being made ready, one may place an order for a single copy at the advance of publication cash price of 40 cents, postpaid. Copies will be delivered upon publication. Copyright restrictions, however, will limit its sale to the United States and Its Possessions.

Two, and particular attention

is given to the presentation of new note values and rhythms. Special holidays are also observed, with appropriate pieces for Valentine's Day, May Day, and Easter. Also included are several teacher and pupil duets, one trio, and a few simplified arrangements of old favorites. Important scale studies with instruction regarding their presentation at each lesson are to be found at the back of the book.

The book ends with a test on the material covered. A single copy may now be ordered at our advance of publication cash price of 25 cents, postpaid.

**ADAM GEIBEL ANTHEM BOOK**—The

price on the booklets already issued is 20 cents, but in advance of publication, a single copy of the booklet may be ordered for publication time delivery at the special cash price of 10 cents, postpaid.

**LAWRENCE KEATING'S JUNIOR CHOIR BOOK**—With a rapidly increasing number of junior choirs springing up all over the country, there is naturally a heavy demand for properly arranged material.

Consequently, this book is being prepared to meet an ever growing need. This work is being prepared by the late Dr. Geibel, which were first published by the Adam Geibel Music Company.

Although all of these anthems are available separately in octavo form and the costumes require only a minimum of Divine, has established him as a choice

anthems available to those choirs which, for convenience as well as for the needs of meeting a limited budget, prefer anthems in collection form. Every one of the Geibel anthems to be included in this collection is a useful number of the type that congregations like to hear and which the average volunteer choir can sing effectively. This means that the church choir obtaining and using this collection will get special value.

Upon publication it will bear a nominal price and while it is in course of preparation choirmasters may obtain for their own personal reference libraries a single copy at the advance of publication cash price of 35 cents, delivery of this copy to be made as soon as the book is published.

anthems available to those choirs which, for convenience as well as for the needs of meeting a limited budget, prefer anthems in collection form. Every one of the Geibel anthems to be included in this collection is a useful number of the type that congregations like to hear and which the average volunteer choir can sing effectively. This means that the church choir obtaining and using this collection will get special value.

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**The Great History of Music for the Modern Reader**

## MUSIC IN WESTERN CIVILIZATION

By Paul Henry Lang

Heretofore musical history has been treated as an isolated domain of human activity. In this new book it receives its rightful place in the general stream of civilization. The spirit of each age finds its expression in music; all aspects of life have been influenced by music, and now, at last, this dramatic and exciting story is told in full for the first time. Beautifully illustrated. 1100 Pages. \$5.00

W. W. NORTON & CO., 70 FIFTH AVE., N.Y.C.

Wine, Woman and Song, and others.

At the special advance of publication price, 40 cents, postpaid, this book is indeed a rare bargain and the publishers suggest the immediate placing of your order while this special offer is in effect.

**CHANGES OF ADDRESS**—Where you change your address, advise us at least four weeks in advance of the publication date, which is the first of each month, giving both old and new addresses. This will prevent your copies from going astray.

**LET'S CHEER! BAND BOOK**, by Fulton Chenette—A collection that is novel in the sense that it contains the type of numbers associated with college sports together with some welcome surprises.

Familiar tunes that may be sung by the band or bleachers are featured, including *De Camptown Races, The Marine Hymn, John Peel, In the Gloaming, Men of Harlech, Yankee Doodle*, and many others. On the whole it may be summarized as a group of attractive new numbers especially written and practically arranged for this book. It is not just a haphazard collection to be relegated to a dark corner in the music library, but one to be kept in constant use. Instrumentation for full band.

Everyone interested in singing will want a copy of this important book, which may be ordered now in advance of publication at \$1.25, postpaid.

**STRAUSS ALBUM OF WALTZES**—Although the Vienna of Schubert, the Strauss family, and other talented composers no longer is the mecca of pleasure-seeking

music lovers, interest in the music of these masters, especially the so-called "younger Strauss," Johann Jr., is ever on the increase. Little did the "Waltz King" of his day imagine that the tunes he wrote for the gay dances of the Vienna cafes would one day be programmed by leading symphony orchestras.

Listening to the fine recordings of the Strauss waltzes, and the frequent broadcasting of them on the better radio programs, the American public has come to a better appreciation of their beauties, their distinctive rhythmic charm. The successful motion picture *The Great Waltz*, portraying incidents in the life of the composer, also did much to popularize some of his delightful compositions.

Pianists of average ability can enjoy many delightful hours playing the fine collection of Strauss waltzes assembled for this new album. It contains such favorites as *On the Beautiful Blue Danube, Sounds from the Vienna Woods, Danube, Roses from the South, Artists' Life, and the Moon*.

These new books prepared by practical teachers who have written for their confreres so much attractive teaching material. As is the usual practice when pub-

**ADVANCE OF PUBLICATION OFFERS WITHDRAWN**—Piano teachers will be pleased with the new works now ready for publication that are being placed on sale this month. Those having in charge

the instruction of very young students, especially, will be much pleased with these new books prepared by practical

teachers who have written for their confreres so much attractive teaching material. As is the usual practice when pub-

lished when published.

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lishing new works that have been described in these notes, this will serve as a notice that the special advance of publication cash price on the following works is now withdrawn. Copies may be had from your local music dealer, or may be obtained for examination from the publishers on our usual liberal terms.

*Little Players*, A Piano Book for Very Young Beginners, by Robert Nolan Kerr, immediately will attract the younger in whose hands a copy is placed as a first piano book. Issued in the convenient oblong style, size about 9½ x 6¾, its attractive illustrations will at once captivate the child. The presentation of the first things that must be learned about music and piano playing is by rote and note, all made as simple as possible. Texts and illustrations bring out familiar experiences in the average child's day and explicit directions are given for developing, from the very beginning, a sense of rhythm. Price, 50 cents.

*Nutcracker Suite* (Tchaikowsky), A Story with Music for the Piano, arranged by Ada Richter brings within the playing capabilities of piano students below 10 years of age, who are in grades 2, 2½ or 3, some of the most fascinating music ever written for the younger generation. In the playing of the orchestral arrangements or the original piano transcriptions of the pieces that Tchaikowsky wrote to describe musically the incidents of this now familiar Russian fairy tale, children heretofore could only listen. And how they did listen and look when they were privileged to witness Walt Disney's epic, "Fantasia." Ada Richter's arrangements of Tchaikowsky's melodies and her telling of the story, all in a 24-page book, make an attractive gift volume for young folk, as well as a most valuable collection of supplementary material for juvenile pianists. Price, 60 cents.

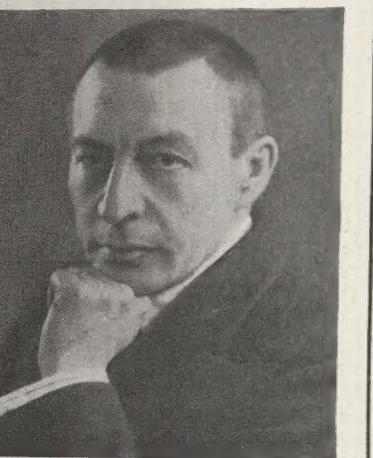
**DO YOU HAVE A COMPLETE CATALOG OF VICTOR RECORDS?** This amazing catalog is virtually a volume giving a list of the things which have become the established favorites with music lovers of all ages and tastes everywhere. Here one finds listed an incredible number of selections representing the best choices in classical, operatic, sacred, standard, and popular music. Then there is a wide variety of renditions—vocal solos, instrumental solos, vocal ensembles, and instrumental groups from dance bands to the world-famous symphony orchestras. The many performers, operatic companies, dance bands, symphony orchestras, chamber music groups, etc., named in the Complete Catalog of Victor Records also makes it something of a "Who's Who" of outstanding artists and musical organizations. These things make this great catalog worth a lot to any lover of music, but most important of all it serves as a splendid guide book in securing records for your musical enjoyment. Send 25 cents (U. S. postage stamps accepted) to Theodore Presser Co. for a copy of this 612-page catalog of Victor records. "Presser's" carries a very comprehensive stock of Victor records and ships ordered records to any part of the United States or its Possessions.

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Send for FREE thematic catalogs of outstanding choruses for Men's Voices, Treble Voices, Mixed Voices—of successful anthems for Mixed Voices.  
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## Next Month

### A CHRISTMAS ISSUE OF SURPRISES

"Better than the best" is what our Editors told us when we asked them about the Christmas Etude. Continuing, they added: "It's just 'tops'. There is interest and profit and charm on every page."



SERGEI RACHMANINOFF

**THE MAN WHO WAS ALWAYS READY**

Frederick Jagel, leading tenor of the Metropolitan, has been called upon many times to sing the tenor parts of the world, and he has always come off with great honors and won an outstanding success for himself. How he has become a model of musical preparedness is the subject of a most sensible and helpful article in December.

**YES, WE HAVE MUSIC IN HAWAII**

Our mid-Pacific arsenal has developed a distinctive and highly original musical life which is described in vivid fashion by Peggy Hickok in the Christmas Etude.

**CHRISTMAS MUSIC THROUGH THE AGES**

Hattie C. Fleck has gone into unusual ways to bring out her knowledge about the glorious old carols which form such a beautiful part of the Christmas festivities in thousands of homes.

**ERNEST HUTCHESON**  
Eminent virtuoso pianist and President of the Juilliard School of Music, who has long been one of the leading piano teachers of America, tells how a general musical training should be "unified" to the higher advantage of piano students. This one article is worth the value of the entire year's subscription to any student needing such priceless advice from a great authority.

## Letters from Etude Friends

### She, Too, Went "Back to the Piano"

**TO THE ETUDE:**  
My ETUDE came yesterday morning early and, as usual, I sat down in the midst of the Saturday morning work, opened it, and almost the first article I saw was the one, "Go Back to the Piano," by Mrs. M. M. Davies.

I felt, after reading it, that if I could see her or write to her, I'd love to tell her how much good it did me to know there was someone else who thought as I do about this dropping of our music just because we are getting old (in years, not in ambition to make music).

I recall some years ago an article written for THE ETUDE by Harold Bauer (I think it is spelled correctly) in which he urged people to keep up their music, if for no other reason than the pleasure it gave to one's friends and also the many opportunities to help in the community.

Mrs. Davies believes in a hobby. She is absolutely right. I look at so many of the young women of to-day, who are frittering away the best part of their lives with no apparent aim or constructive interest. Like Mrs. Davies', mine has been music. Not so many music lessons, but years of practice and teaching, and, at seventy-two—which I will be next week—I am not quitting. They won't let me if I want to. I played in church this morning and expect to help in the Easter music.

As she says, a person's fingers do get stiff; but I have noticed, too, that the old things you played well in your more youthful days somehow come back and sound quite creditable with a little practice.

In this day of radio I wonder how many do as I do—play with the radio. It's great fun and instructive, too. Fortunately, my piano is in tune with almost all the orchestras, and whenever a familiar selection is played, I sit down and play with them. My grandchildren think it's wonderful when Grandma plays with a radio orchestra.

A few days ago the great organ in the Tabernacle in Salt Lake City was pouring forth a grand old number and, as I knew it from memory, I sat down and played too, and for once my interpretation coincided with the organist. This is not always the case. I really was quite puffed up about it. The piano and the organ were exactly in tune. I don't know many people who do this, but they would find it great pleasure. It's interesting to note the different interpretations of selections, almost as many as there are players or conductors.

I have a sister who gave a program of music a few weeks ago that would appall some of the young players. She played all but one number from memory and, as she had no piano at home, was forced to go out to "brush up" on her pieces in getting ready for the program. Through misfortune she has to get out every day and sell from door to door; and when I think of the courage to keep playing whenever she can, and at the age of sixty-eight, too, I think she deserves real homage.

I am thinking as I write this that perhaps very much credit should go to the makers of THE ETUDE. I know it has kept up my interest as nothing else could, all these many years.

I must tell you of this sister having to give a Sibelius program for her club. She wrote that she did not know where to get material, I wrote her of an ERTE article that had just what she wanted, and it saved the day for her. This was either in 1940 or '39.

So in closing I am so thankful for such a paper as THE ETUDE and for such articles as this one by Mrs. Davies. I loved every word of it.

Let's hope more people get back to their pianos; let's make more music, and as long as we can—Mrs. T. J. WALTERS.

### More About Blind Tom

**TO THE EDITOR OF THE ETUDE:**  
I have intended writing you ever since I read the article in last Summer's Etude (August, 1940) about Blind Tom, for some of the statements made do not agree with my mother's memoirs. Blind Tom was born of a mulatto slave belonging to my mother's uncle, General Bethune, on his plantation near Columbus, Georgia.

Henry Watterson, James Aswell, and The Etude article mentioned by Miss Abbott, each state that the mother was bought on the auction block with Tom in her arms. Mother's place and gives her theory of Tom's unusual musical ability. It seems his mother (I have forgotten her name), before Tom's birth, had gone up to Columbus to the firemen's parade, where she heard numerous bands "in an ecstasy of delight." Mother—Mrs. John H. Owen—and her second oldest child, Mrs. Laura Burgess, now of Dallas, ninety-three years old, visited Aunt Frances Bethune

when Tom was between five and six. He was born in 1849 and Sister Laura, being her little cousin used to tease the poor blind fellow considerably. Tom called himself "Lizzie." On this visit Mother was in parlor playing, and Tom crawled under the square piano and afterwards said "There Lizzie, what was that you were playing?" It was then, I think, that they discovered his remarkable gift. I was talking to my sister in Dallas, not so long ago, and will remember many little details I was told to learn. Tom had been to Navasota, Texas, where he was about seven; I remember how glad he was about getting first prize in a competition. Cousin John Bethune was his manager, announced that Tom was to play the piano, "by Mrs. M. M. Davies."

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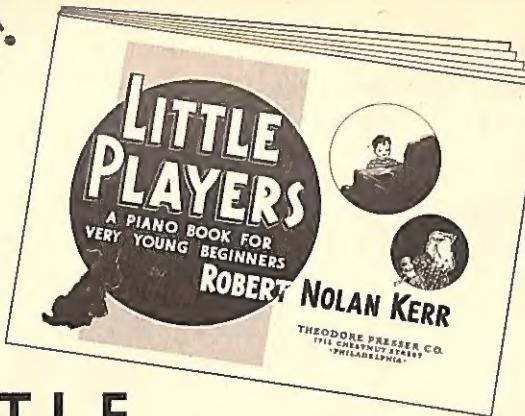
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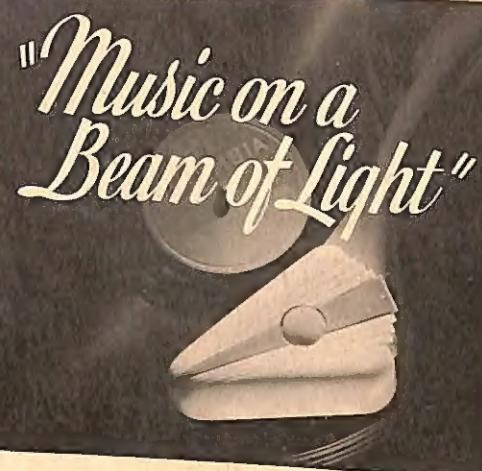
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